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Abdullah Kurdi
metroNEWS



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2015

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The little boy who made the world 'wake up'



Emily
Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Alan Kurdi, 2012-2015

Three-year-old Alan Kurdi was excited to go on a boat ride.

The toddler, who was always giggling, was especially delighted when a mist of water sprayed his face on the boat that promised to smuggle about a dozen Syrian refugees living in Turkey, including his family, to Greece, which was to be the next stop for the Kurds in their attempt to seek refuge with family in Canada.

"Alan was laughing his head off and he said, 'Oh, that's cold,'" his aunt Tima Kurdi recounted from a conversation with the toddler's father, her brother Abdullah. She lives in Coquitlam, B.C.

The next morning, the world woke up to a photo of Alan's life-

less body washed up on a Turkish beach. A wave hit the boat, causing it to flip over in a disaster that killed at least 12 people, including Alan's five-year-old brother Ghalib and his 26-year-old mother Rehan. His father Abdullah survived.

Splashed on front pages and screens around the world, the image of the young boy prompted cries for more action on the crisis. Canadian leaders interrupted their campaigns to address the tragedy and Alan's connection to Canada.

Alan and his brother were born in Kobani, a Syrian town on the Turkish border, their aunt Tima told reporters at her suburban home, where she was hoping her family would live if they were granted refugee status.

Tima, a hairdresser, has been in Canada since 1992. Her family owns land in Kobani, where they grow olive trees and relatives gather every summer. It was there that



Alan Kurdi THE CANADIAN PRESS

Abdullah, a barber, first met Rehan, a seamstress, when he was helping tend the trees.

The pair were married and lived in Damascus before moving back to Kobani when Rehan was expecting their first son, Ghalib.

It's not clear exactly when the family fled to Turkey, but in a letter to Chris Alexander, Canada's citizenship and immigration minister, Tima hints at a treacherous journey where her family encountered rebels.

She called their situation desperate and wrote it was impossible for them to return to Syria to get the documents Canada requires.

In the meantime, they lived with another Syrian family in Turkey, with Tima sending money to pay the bills. Abdullah did "everything in his power" to make enough money to feed his family, doing his best to get into construction work.

Tima last saw her nephews on

a trip to Turkey in 2014. Alan was always giggling in the background when Tima spoke to relatives on the phone. Ghalib's favourite food was bananas, and he asked his aunt to buy him a bicycle. He wondered if there were a lot of toys in Greece.

Tima said the family wants the world to take action.

"That's what Abdullah said to me: 'It's OK, it has to be my kids and my wife to wake up the world. It's OK. So maybe the others will be safe ... it's written to happen.'"

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Syrian refugee crisis

10 pages of coverage inside

- From war-torn Syria to a new life in Alberta, pg. 3
- Harper says policy change isn't enough, pg. 23
- What you can do to help the refugees, pg. 30



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Mawed, the Mennonites and his family's escape from Syria

MIDDLE EAST

From a region ravaged by war to a new life in Edmonton



Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

The end of a Palestinian family's journey that was first forced by war into Syria, and then pushed by war to a refugee camp in Lebanon, is a grey three-bedroom house that Mohamad Mawed is renting in north Edmonton.

Reminders of Syria are close by: down the road is the baklava-packed Paradiso Pastries, and a few blocks further, the Al-Rashid Mosque.

But inside the house are the six people Mawed has fought for a year to get out of Syria and into Edmonton: his brother, Ahmad, Ahmad's wife, Hayat, and their four children.

And to do so Mawed — who came to Edmonton in early 2014, after leaving a job in the United Arab Emirates — has had the help of a unique interfaith partnership between the Islamic Family and Social Services Association and the Mennonite community in Alberta.

"I tried to find some solution for them," Mawed said Thursday, describing his push



Ahmad Maouaed, right, fled Syria for a refugee camp in Lebanon three years ago. His brother, Mohamad Mawed, left, has sponsored him and his family to come to Edmonton.

HILARY MCDONALD/FOR METRO

to get Ahmad and his family out of a precarious situation in a refugee camp Lebanon, where they'd fled to three years ago from Damascus.

Tomorrow, Mawed said, he's filing paperwork to try to bring another group of relatives, 17 in total, to Canada.

"My hope is Canada will be more supportive," he said. "If the process moved more quickly, they will help more people."

“My hope is Canada will be more supportive. If the process moved more quickly, they will help more people.”

Mohamad Mawed

The connection between the Mennonite and Muslim community in Alberta has been building for years, explained Suzanne Gross, a manager at the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers.

Gross said when the Syrian refugee crisis exploded, the linkages allowed the Mennonite communities in Edmonton and Calgary to help more directly than they other-

wise could.

The main barrier for non-Syrian Canadians to help, she explained, is the Canadian government's requirement that Syrian refugees be sponsored by family or friends to move here.

Thanks to the established links, though, Syrian families were found in Edmonton and families and friends needing refuge were put on the list.

All told, across Alberta there have been 268 refugee cases filed through this partnership, and 36 people from Syria have landed in Edmonton over the last three months.

The Mennonite groups have partnered with four agencies, two in Calgary and two in Edmonton, and are looking at introducing 400 new cases in the near future, said Orlando Vasquez, program director for the Mennonite Central Committee, based in Calgary.

Donna Entz, with the Mennonite Church of Alberta, said the linkage is about humanity, and touches all involved.

"The first family that came, there was a party afterward, and the host family asked, 'Why are you doing this?'" Entz said.

"We explained, 'To build bridges and create a peaceful world.'"

"There's no pushback in terms of distrust, it's more just trying to understand the motivation."

+ DRAFT

Calgary-based Syrian man fears for his own family

Seeing the images of a three-year-old boy drowned on the shores of Turkey reminded Calgary's Adel Bitar of his own plight to prevent a young family member from being drafted into the Syrian army.

On Thursday, news broke that Alan Kurdi drowned with his brother, his mother and eight other refugees when their boat overturned. They were trying to escape from Syria.

Bitar said his own relatives are currently hiding in Lebanon, but their son's passport will expire and force them back to Syria.

"He's almost 18 years old," Bitar explained. "If he's in Syria, he has to join the army. That's why we told them to leave the country. So they're in Lebanon right now. They cannot go back and can't renew his passport."

Bitar applied to get them into Canada two months ago and is now awaiting an official response.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

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Wildrose's Prasad Panda takes Calgary-Foothills

BYELECTION

NDP trails by about 600 votes with 63 of 66 polls in



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Although a lot was riding on an orange crush, Calgary-Foothills voters got a little Wildrose blush.

Voters in the riding vacated by former premier Jim Prentice after the May 2015 provincial general election decided they weren't buying into current premier Rachel Notley's ways, instead voting in the opposition Wildrose Party candidate, Prasad Panda.

Both parties put their full weight behind the campaign, the first test of the Alberta NDP's resolve after sweeping the Tories from power earlier this year.

After 63 of 66 polls reporting, Panda had 2,936 votes, nearly 600 ahead of nearest rival, the Alberta NDP's high profile candidate, Bob Hawkesworth, who had 2,351.

Following them was the PC party's Blair Houston with 1,995, and then a steep drop to the Alberta Liberals' Zahid Ali Bin with 534, the Alberta Party's Mark Taylor with 460 and the Greens' Janet Keeping with 293. Advanced polling had yet to be counted.

Panda was elated the voters of Calgary-Foothills stood behind him.

"I'm so happy to have won tonight," he said.



Six parties contested the seat vacated earlier this year by former premier Jim Prentice.
THE CANADIAN PRESS



We worked very hard and we took our message that it was about jobs to everyone in Foothills. Calgary is worried about jobs and the Premier needs to understand this. Prasad Panda

"We worked very hard and we took our message that it was about jobs to everyone in Foothills. Calgary is worried about jobs and the Premier needs to understand this."

With both Panda and PC

Party candidate Blair Houston showing well, Mount Royal political science professor Duane Bratt said it's clear Calgary-Foothills voters still lean conservative.

"It's a narrow Wildrose vic-

tory," Bratt said.

"The NDP was close, I was also surprised at how resilient the PC vote has been where it is sitting at 1,995 votes."

Despite the result, Bratt said it wasn't clear what it meant for Notley's government.

"Voter turnout remains in the mid 20s so I'm not sure how much we can predict about a general election. I think there would have been a big upswing for the NDP had they been able to pull this off, but this is a small 'c' conserva-

tive riding, a wealthy riding and this was a riding the Wildrose party needed to win and it looks like they have," Bratt said.

"This illustrates just how conservative this riding is."

Bob Hawkesworth said despite the loss he's proud of the outcome in this riding.

"I couldn't have asked for better from my team and I am grateful to the voters in Calgary-Foothills for their participation and it was a privilege to be a candidate," he said.

"This certainly was an area of the province that was small 'c' conservative from the outset, I just take some significant comfort from the fact that our vote in this byelection was increased fivefold over what is was less than a year ago."

The Alberta Party, despite having leader Greg Clark as the first party MLA voted to the legislature in Calgary Elbow, weren't able to make a dent in the northwest.

Candidate Mark Taylor said a summer byelection proved challenging to get a ground game going.

"I don't sit there and fault the Alberta Party at all; I think this is just a reflection of how the government treats byelections. There could have been plenty of different opportunities for when this could have been run but instead this was dropped in the middle of summer when tons of people are on holidays..." he said.

Taylor said the party will reflect upon the fifth-place showing to better prepare for upcoming votes.

For the Wildrose, Panda is the 22nd MLA in the legislature and he's the first to be elected in an urban riding.

+ BACKGROUND

Riding was fought tooth and nail

The race was nasty at times.

The Wildrose, which didn't hold a seat in Edmonton or Calgary, accused the NDP of trying to scare voters by suggesting the Wildrose backs sweeping and punishing civil service job cuts.

The NDP fired back at the Wildrose for a campaign pamphlet, written in Cantonese, that compared the government to communists.

The Wildrose said it meant to say socialists and that was lost in translation.

Panda said prior to Thursday's vote that people he was talking to weren't convinced the New Democrats could lead Alberta back to prosperity.

"They're realizing the NDP tend to believe they have a mandate to implement their ideological agenda, whereas people are really worried about jobs and the economy," he said.

Houston said despite Prentice's abrupt departure on election night before all the votes were even counted, he did not encounter residual anger at the party, adding he himself was upset when Prentice stepped down.

It was the third time in a little over 10 months that Calgary-Foothills voters had gone to the ballot box.

In preparation for taking over the Alberta Conservatives after the resignation of former premier Alison Redford, Prentice had won the constituency in a byelection in October.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Province to provide funding for transit

GREENTRIP PROGRAM

Government picks 18 projects from list of asks



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The City of Calgary's Transit system may be in for an upgrade as the province is planning an announcement Friday on the 2014 Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP) asks.

Metro had learned the province will provide Calgary funding for its high priority Route Ahead projects.

The provincial program is making funding available to municipalities to support local and sustainable public transit alternatives. Calgary's Regional Partnership (CRP) submitted a



Calgary Transit will be able to expand bus options with an expected cash infusion from the province. METRO FILE

list of projects and initiatives, vying for provincial dollars, and the NDP government has picked 18 projects for funding.

"Projects have been approved for the Calgary Regional Partnership to improve LRT service, expand bus transit options and improve transit infrastructure

to make the ride even more comfortable," read a press release sent out by Alberta Transportation.

A laundry list of asks from the GreenTRIP submission amounting to more than \$162.66 million is on the line for Calgary, alongside projects

in Airdrie, Banff and Canmore.

Calgary's six projects tied to Route Ahead included the 17 Avenue Southeast Transitway, Southwest Transitway, North and South Crosstown BRT, West LRT land costs and four-car train traction power upgrades.

The CRP submission called the 17 Avenue transitway, which was the city's biggest ask at \$65.33 million, a "high priority" and identified it as one of the "backbones of the primary transit network."

Last week, Edmonton had their round of good news with a \$28 million funding announcement for a regional "smart fare" system.

An official announcement Friday will be attended by mayors Naheed Nenshi, Peter Brown, John Borrowman and Karen Sorensen.

Get the latest by visiting metronews.ca/calgary for more information or check out @Metrocalgary on Twitter.

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Group wants bus walk times restored



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

"The fact that this was sprung on parents with only four days' notice is also problematic."

At a news conference Tuesday, CBE board chair Joy Bowen-Eyre said a number of bus stops were removed to save on costs and reduce ride times for students.

The CAPSC petition asks for: bus stop walk times to be restored to previous levels, a financial review of transportation fees, including Calgary Transit fees paid by parents and also public consultation on transportation strategies.



We're still getting emails from parents who are struggling to get their children to the bus safely and also get to work.

CAPSC president
Lisa Davis

The Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) said they've been fielding calls from frustrated parents all week, and now they're doing something about it.

CAPSC has started a petition asking for stakeholders in the Calgary Board of Education to address issues with the new congregated bus stops.

"We're still getting emails from parents who are struggling to get their children to the bus safely and also get to work," said CAPSC president Lisa Davis. "They're frustrated that their children are now walking 35 minutes to get to the bus stop — a situation they feel is unacceptable in a winter environment."

"We're hoping this will be a turning point in how the CBE actually consults with parents," Davis said.

CBE trustees have declined to comment at this time, as they have requested further information from administration.

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IN BRIEF

Man accused in Bible school sex assaults gets conditional sentence

A man has been given a conditional 18-month sentence after pleading guilty to breaking into the Prairie Bible Institute in central Alberta last summer.

Renie Gall, who is 34, originally faced six charges of sexual assault, but they were withdrawn. He has also been fined \$200.

Police reported in August 2014 that an intruder

had broken into the school's dormitories and sexually assaulted several students in their rooms.

The school said at the time that it had made security improvements after someone got in through a ground floor window.

The school said the person crept into unlocked rooms belonging to both men and women and awoke students by touching their legs.

He then asked for sexual favours. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inmate on lam from Alberta jail arrested in Quebec

A man who was on the lam from an Alberta jail for nearly five months is back in custody.

Sylvain Martin escaped from the Bowden Institution on April 16. He had been serving a 10-year sentence for fraud, obstruction and forgery.

Correctional Service Canada says Martin was apprehended in Drummondville, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two men injured in shooting west of Red Deer

RCMP say two people have been injured in a shooting in central Alberta.

The shooting happened Wednesday night in the town of Eckville west of Red Deer.

Police won't say if they are searching for any suspects.

Both victims, including a man in his 20s, are being treated in hospital.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



TLink co-founder Stefan Radeta is taking his lightweight blue-tooth accessory to the next level, allowing users to track their stats from game to game, and even share data with friends and family. CONTRIBUTED/STEFAN RADERA

Golf watch swings by Big Apple

TECHNOLOGY

Calgary-based developers aim for global fame at media event



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The Calgary-based developers of TLink, a Bluetooth golf watch, are heading to New York to show off their device at the Bluetooth Media Event NYC, where the best Bluetooth devices from around the globe are shown off to media.

Last year only 27 companies were accepted to the event.

Stefan Radeta and Derek Rucki, co-creators of the device, applied to the event a month ago and didn't expect much after applying. Upon receiving the news that they got in, Radeta said it felt great to receive recognition for their lightweight watch.

"It was just an idea on paper when we started," he said.

"We had no idea that a year-

and-a-half later all this would blow up, but that's the dream of every entrepreneur, right?"

As Metro was first to report, Rucki was named Canada's Top Student Entrepreneur by the Entrepreneurs' Organization in Toronto in February, and the duo only began producing their watches this year.

The TLink pairs with the GPS technology in a user's smartphone using Bluetooth. Because of this link, they can keep the weight of the watch down and still provide an accurate yardage of the green for golfers.

"Golf watches already existed, but the issue with them was that they were super heavy

and bulky, and golfers hate golfing with something that's huge on their wrist because it distracts them," Radeta explained.

He said the team is now working on an update for the device that will allow users to track

their stats from game to game, and even share the data with friends and family.

That update is planned to roll out next month.



We had no idea that a year-and-a-half later all this would blow up, but that's the dream of every entrepreneur, right?

Stefan Radeta

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United Way celebrates 75 years

TRUTH AND DARE

Parade attracts crowd of 3,000 to fight poverty, assist youth



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

With a cape whipping behind her in the wind, Meagan Edwards marched down Stephen Avenue alongside a crowd of 3,000 on Thursday morning.

The parade kicked off the United Way's 75th anniversary with the hopes of rallying the city in support of the 127,000 Calgarians living in poverty.

It was the second year Edwards joined in the march, saying that coming back "was an easy decision."

"It's just so exciting to be down here and the energy is contagious," she said.

"This year, with the economy, it was hard to know what to expect. But coming again down here and seeing so many different companies



Minutes before the parade begins, Bob Michaleski gears up by cheering with the crowd.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO

coming out and showing the same kind of support for the community is amazing."

The United Way has themed this year's campaign Truth and Dare, daring the community to make a change. The money raised this year will be

invested in three areas: fighting poverty, helping youth and building community.

The crowd came dressed as daredevils and superheroes, brandishing noisemakers and cowbells as they walked from 5 Street SW to Olympic Plaza.

"We all know that a city is only as strong as its most vulnerable," said Lucy Miller, President and CEO of United Way of Calgary and Area. "Anybody can have a campaign and do good when times are good, but when times are

"We all know that a city is only as strong as its most vulnerable."

Lucy Miller, President and CEO of United Way of Calgary and Area

difficult, that's when we're really called upon to make a difference."

As thousands filtered into Olympic Plaza, Miller offered up her Truth and Dare challenge. She said that one in 10 Calgarians live in poverty, and in the economic downturn, that number might grow.

Applause erupted as she asked the crowd, "Can we agree to come together to fight poverty?"

"The reality is that there's only so much money to go around," she added. "People work hard for their money, so it's up to all of us to make sure that we maximize the resources that are available... so we can win on some of those issues."

IN BRIEF

Canada Revenue Agency con bilks citizens of more than \$50K in two weeks

The bank accounts of some Calgarians are feeling the pinch after an "increasingly aggressive" con known as the "CRA Scam."

Calgary police said it believes that fraudsters have bilked Calgarians of more than \$50,000 over the last week and a half.

Police said individuals posing as the Canada Revenue Agency generally contact victims and tell them they owe considerable amounts of money back in taxes or that their status is illegitimate in Canada.

Victims are continuously threatened with deportation and imprisonment, according to police.

Originally police said the victims were generally new Canadians, but have recently heard from a variety of victims.

More than 450 victims have reported cases in Canada in the last two months with 25 reporting financial loss. METRO

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CRIME

Repeat offender charged with fraud again

A Calgary man charged with defrauding his former employer of \$5 million in August had previously faced fraud charges, according to Alberta Justice.

Ian Fisher, who was fired in 2011 from Arcan Resources Ltd., co-founded the company with his brother.

An internal investigation conducted by the company revealed Fisher had created three shell companies, according to police.

Fisher used the shell companies to bill 91 fictitious invoices over four years before being caught, said Calgary Police Staff Sgt. Kristie Verheul.

Fisher previously faced three counts of fraud over \$1,000 in 1995. He pleaded guilty and served one day in prison and served six months probation.

Court document obtained by Metro show Fisher and Arcan Resources Ltd. entered into lengthy civil court pro-

ceedings in 2012 to the tune of \$4,523,422, finding Fisher guilty.

An employee with Aspenleaf Energy Ltd., which acquired Arcan Resources Ltd. in April, informed Metro that none of the management, or the board of directors from Arcan Resources Ltd., are currently associated with the company.

Financial documents available online for Arcan Resources Ltd. show that in the years

leading up to Fisher's legal problems his earnings significantly increased annually. In 2008 Fisher made \$185,500, in 2009 his income from Arcan Resources Ltd. more than doubled, reaching \$400,596. By 2010, the year before he was fired, he made nearly \$4 million.

Fisher is scheduled to appear in court Sept. 11. Verheul said no other charges are expected.

LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO



Emergency crews clean up outside a Coventry Hills home after a victim escaped an alleged confinement in the home Wednesday. LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

Neighbours see escape

CRIME

Two charged in confinement case, police seek two more



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Calgary police have laid charges after a young man was allegedly tied up against his will and assaulted in a northeast residence.

Police responded Wednesday at 4 p.m. to the 100 block of Coventry Road NE where a neighbour told Metro they witnessed a man who was injured and partially bound run from a house.

"I saw him run out of the house's front door screaming 'Help! Help!'" Stephanie, who didn't want her last name used, told Metro. "(He said) they took pliers to his nose and it was badly cut up.

"It was horrifying the way he ran out of the house's front door with the duct tape on his

wrists, screaming."

She said the victim told her his attackers had said they were planning to rob his house and "clean out his bank account."

Police said the 30-year-old victim had met a "female youth" on the bus and exchanged contact information with her.

He went to the residence to see her, but further details of what happened in the home are under investigation.

For Stephanie, the experience was traumatic. She said she and other community members have had "major problems" with the residence in question.

Police have charged the youth with one count of robbery, common assault and unlawful confinement. Samuel Chase, a 19-year-old from Calgary, has also been charged with one count of assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm and unlawful confinement.

The investigation is in its early stages, but police are still trying to locate two other suspects.

Police are asking anyone with information to call 403-266-1234 or Crime Stoppers anonymously.

WITH FILES FROM HELEN PIKE

It was horrifying the way he ran out of the house's front door with the duct tape on his wrists, screaming.

Stephanie, neighbour who witnessed escape



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Nolan Matthias of Mortgage 360 poses at the Inglewood "play me please" piano.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/ FOR METRO

Public pianos beg to be played

MUSIC

Project brings instruments to city streets



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Soon you won't have to go far to tickle some ivories.

A mysterious but not-so-subtle pink piano has popped up in Inglewood, just steps from musical joints like Lolita's and the Blues Can.

"I didn't think putting a pink piano in Inglewood would get this much attention," Nolan Matthias said. "It's actually been really overwhelming."

A Calgary mortgage company, Mortgage 360, has spurred an initiative to flood city streets with working pianos in an effort to get people playing and enjoy-

ing their community.

"Music is kind of the cornerstone of community," Matthias said. "It's not anything that was designed to be tied to our company, it was just something we did for team building, because we love our city."

These pianos will join the other public instruments on the streets, like the ones put out by the Downtown Association, but instead of being stored away each winter, they are looking for families to adopt and love them through the cold months.

"People are really happy to donate pianos as long as they don't have to move them," Matthias said.

"We already have people asking to adopt them."

Matthias added they are paying to have the pianos moved in and out of homes, but they hope to partner with a moving company to help out in the future.

You can't have a piano out-

side without some noise. Jon MacDonald, who works in the Mortgage Connection where Matthias placed the first piano, said he hears people poking away at the keys every now and then.

"I can hear it a few times a day," MacDonald said. "Usually people will do a walk by, and then they'll come back with cameras ready and they'll start playing, taking pictures and having fun."

"It's a fun idea, it's creative and gets people to stop and think."

Matthias said his company plans to add around 50 pianos to Calgary streets all over the city by next year, starting with the "trendy" neighbourhoods such as Kensington. But you might see a set of keys at this weekend's pride festivities.

To support the project, visit playmeplease.ca.

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This recession feels different

IN DEFENCE OF

Mike Morrison
Metro | Calgary

This week Albertan's got a double whammy.

First we heard from Alberta NDP Finance Minister Joe Ceci that Alberta is staring down the barrel of a \$6.5 billion deficit. Then, Statistics Canada essentially said the whole country has been in a recession for the previous two quarters.

Add on top of that, oil and gas companies are still announcing massive layoffs. More than 900 between ConocoPhillips and Penn-West. Turbulent times ahead for many.

I'm not sure about you, but this feels a lot different than the last time we went

into a recession back in 2008. Maybe it's because no one seems to know how to fix it.

And as someone who's still thankful to Mr. Williams for mysteriously allowing me to pass Grade 12 math, I'm certainly no financial expert, but I really think Calgarians need to start thinking differently about how we spend money.

Many have lived the good life for too long and now that's changed. For now and maybe well into the future.

In a city and province that's stubbornly reliant on oil revenue, we have to start prioritizing our dollars, no matter how many or few we might have. While I do fully support the City of Calgary building as many stations as possible for the proposed Green Line, I also don't think we should even be consid-



Metro columnist Mike Morrison says there's a different vibe to this recession in Calgary and he has some ideas on what we need to do to keep our heads above water. METRO FILE

ering CalgaryNEXT, at least not right now. Chalk it up to really bad timing.

We also have to start thinking about our homes differently. Being from the east coast, one thing I've never understood is this city's obsession with living in

a new house. I don't think a new home has been built in New Brunswick since 1896.

Sorry to dash your white picket fence dreams, but now isn't the time to start yet another new community, and forcing the city and province to then provide the

necessary infrastructure like schools, fire stations, roads and transit.

There are more important issues at hand than people wanting to pick out their own ceramic tile. It's just not realistic anymore. Until things recover, living in a

10-year-old house will have to do.

And then there are the businesses that we can actually help survive the recession.

"Shop local" used to be an expression reserved for hippies, but we need to start seeing it as a way of making sure our friends, neighbours and family have jobs.

Before you hop in a car and head to a mall, you're probably already thinking about your newly limited budget, so why not put those dollars in the pockets of businesses that need them desperately to survive.

I bet there isn't a single thing you could get at a mall that you couldn't get along 9 Avenue in Inglewood — from school supplies, to birthday gifts and, yes, even Christmas gifts.

If you fear Calgary becoming the next Detroit as some have predicted, why wouldn't you do everything you can to stop it?

Mike Morrison tweets from @mikesbloggity



'Shop local' used to be an expression reserved for hippies, but we need to start seeing it as a way of making sure our friends, neighbours and family have jobs.

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Pride-flag bobsled slides into parade

SUPPORT

WinSport add something special to day



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Jason McKay said WinSport just wanted to do something memorable and meaningful for this

year's Calgary Pride Parade.

McKay, the director of sales for WinSport, came up with the idea of wrapping a vintage bobsled in the pride flag and the Canadian Olympic Committee's "One Team" logo for their first-ever Calgary Pride Parade.

"Last year when I went to the parade, it was exciting to see the athletes, but this year we decided we needed to do something bigger and better," he said.



If you put it all into your sport, it doesn't matter about your sexual orientation.

Jason McKay of WinSport

Riding in the bobsled will be openly gay Australian bobsled-

der Simon Dunn.

McKay said having WinSport involved in the parade is another way to show support for gay athletes and Olympians.

"It's all about being accepted, and the athletes and the Olympians always say, 'If you put it all into your sport, it doesn't matter about your sexual orientation.'"

McKay said there will be more than 30 athletes and Olympians marching alongside the bobsled to show their support.



The bobsled will be WinSport's main attraction during the parade. COURTESY JASON MCKAY



Robyn Condon with friends in Calgary on Halloween at Heritage Park. CONTRIBUTED

PARANORMAL

Local ghost hunter seeks hauntings

Smack in the middle of the Nevada desert in purportedly one of the most haunted towns in North America, you can find a woman seeking out haunted spaces — and for her, it's a case of "the scarier the better."

That's because 32-year-old self-professed "paranormal enthusiast" Robyn Condon has a sixth sense, one she says opens her up to spiritual sensitivity and causes her to seek out strange paranormal activity.

"I've been interested in the paranormal since I was a kid but I didn't start to really get involved until I was 25," she said, adding that she's an empath, a rarity among the population.

"My boyfriend at the time rented a room at this house in Calgary, where the activity started with knocks and ended with two full-bodied apparitions. He

was terrified. I was intrigued."

While she thinks every person has an ability to have a sixth sense, she says hers started when she was younger.

"When I tend to feel the presence of spirit energy — it's real — I start with a tingling in my calves. After the calves go, the eyes water, the hair stands on end and breath becomes more rapid and shallow. Some people call it channeling. I call it my reaction."

Condon recently returned from her annual trip to the Nevada desert.

"Virginia City, Nev., is my version of Disneyland. This is considered to be one of the most haunted towns in America, where the dead residents literally outnumber the living population," she said.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

IN BRIEF

Pug stolen five years ago reunited with family

A pug that was stolen outside a Calgary business five years was found by an Airdrie dog rescuer Thursday.

The pooch, named Tyson, was given to a local veterinary clinic, which then determined ownership through a tattoo on his ear, RCMP said in a press release. Tyson has since been reunited with his owner, RCMP said.

METRO

Alberta mother to stand trial for death of daughter

A woman accused of killing her young daughter on a rural Alberta road one year ago will stand trial on the charges. The preliminary hearing wrapped up Thursday for Laura Coward.

Coward, 48, is charged with first-degree murder in the death of nine-year-old Amber Lucius. Her body was found in a car near Sundre in September. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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When he's not on the field, Calgary Stampeders QB Bo Levi Mitchell likes ping pong, poker and PlayStation. CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

Calgary Stampeders quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell captured the attention of Stamps fans last year by leading the team to a Grey Cup victory and being named Grey Cup MVP.

Mitchell boasts one of the best starts for a CFL quarterback at 22-4. He talks with Metro about how he became a quarterback and making Calgary his new home full-time.

What's in a name

Because his father was a huge baseball fan, Mitchell and his three brothers were all named after famous baseball players. Mitchell was named after Bo Jackson. It was the hope of his father that his sons would take up baseball; he was their baseball coach growing up.

But all of them ended up pursuing football instead, with three brothers pursuing pro to semi-pro football after high

school, and only one playing baseball in college.

"I actually think he was (disappointed), but he doesn't show it. But secretly he wanted us all to play baseball," says Mitchell.

Starting quarterback

For Mitchell, being a quarterback was something he aspired to be to as a child, but also a position he happened to fall into. When his oldest brother took him to his first football tryout in Grade 5, it was expected that every kid was there to play quarterback.

"Nobody raised their hand and my brother said 'raise your hand' and I did, and I be-

came quarterback. I have never played another position."

A new home

Despite being with the Stampeders since 2012, Mitchell decided it was time to call Calgary his full-time home this past winter. With his fiancée, whom he met in college, and dog Frisco, they purchased a new home in north Calgary and said the transition has been an easy one to make.

"It reminds me of a lot of back home — I see a lot of the same type of people," said Mitchell.

"Everyone is so nice up here, they want to get to know your actual story and that's what I love about being up here in Calgary."

Don't forget! This Monday is the Battle of Alberta as the Edmonton Eskimos come down south to play the Calgary Stampeders in the annual Labour Day Classic. Big game with lots on the line!

METROTALKS BO LEVI MITCHELL

FIND OUT WHAT MAKES THE CALGARY STAMPEDERS' STAR QUARTERBACK TICK IN OUR ONGOING LOOK AT PLAYERS, COACHES, STAFF AND FANS OF THIS CITY'S CFL CLUB

BO KNOWS FOOTBALL

+ LIGHTNING ROUND!

1. Favourite sport — other than football — to watch?
In person, it would be baseball. On TV, golf, hands down.

2. What do you love to talk about but no one ever asks you about?
Other sports: golf, baseball, basketball, ping pong, poker.

3. Your all-time favourite Stampeders (past or present):
It's a tie between Tsoumpas and Brett Jones, gotta give your OL love.

4. Favourite Calgary hang-out:
Probably the Cineplex Movie Theatre at Chinook. Me and

my fiancée like to compete in the arcade games.

5. What's your ideal vacation?
Somewhere with a beach, but has to have a football field close.

6. If we turned on your iPod, what would be playing?
A lot of country, but also J. Cole, Future and Drake.

7. What movie could you watch over and over again?
Any Given Sunday. Or any comedy, like Horrible Bosses.

8. Bucket-list item you are dying to cross off?
Back-to-back Grey Cup championships.

Services and Research, which helps to create a society where individuals with disabilities are integral and valued members.

Also, to help reward young football players who are making

an impact on and off the field, Bo's Quarterback Club (in partnership with New West Truck Centres), gives players and coaches a chance to attend a Stampeders home game.

Off the market

During the off-season, Mitchell started making future plans outside of football by proposing to his college girlfriend, Madison Hilpert. It happened in Hawaii while the two were on vacation. "We've always golfed a lot together so that was something I wanted to incorporate into it," says Mitchell.

Because Hilpert's favourite number is seven, Mitchell waited until the seventh hole to pop the question. Using the ring as a ball marker on the green, Mitchell waited for Hilpert to discover the ring before dropping to one knee.

"I would say it turned out pretty well." The two are set to be married on New Year's Eve in Washington.

Community work

Mitchell recently teamed up with the Vecova Centre for Disability

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CULTURE

Youngsters headline Theatre Junction Grand

It's time to show that Calgary's youth also have a voice on the professional stage, says Mark Lawes, artistic director for Theatre Junction Grand.

So, the theatre company has decided to do exactly that — 10 high-schoolers will soon be selected for its upcoming show, Concord Floral.

Twenty-six-year-old Jordan Tan-nahill — one of Canada's youngest theatre artists — originally wrote the show for an audience in Toronto, Lawes said.

He said Theatre Junction Grand loved it, so it collaborated with Erin Brubacher — the original creator of the production — to bring the show to Calgary, using local performers and tweaking the script to ensure it's within the context of the city.

There's more to Calgary than its "wasp" culture, Lawes said. "There's all these other voices — like Calgary's youth — that are out there."

"These young people are the future of this city," he added. "Let-

ting these voices be heard by Cal-garians is really great for the future of culture."

Concord Floral is about 10 teens who seek refuge in an abandoned villa, after a plague has infected the earth. The teens

then try to stay alive by telling each other their stories.



Mark Lawes

The theatre company has also announced it's 2015-16 fall lineup, which includes Catch Me!, What Happened to the Seeker, Is-olde, Snakeskins, and Cities. Concord Floral will soon begin rehearsal and be

available for viewing in April.
JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

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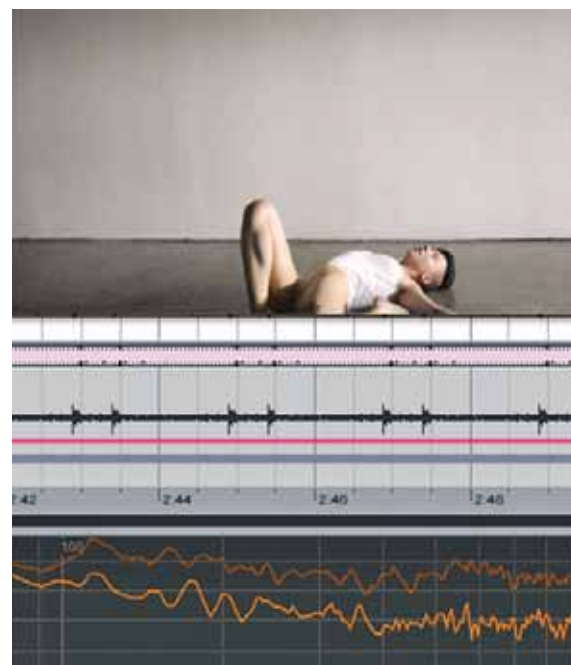
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Screenshot of Sarah Kelly's work in editing software — she throws herself on to concrete to make unfamiliar sounds.

CONTRIBUTED

Concrete soundtrack

PERFORMANCE

Calgary artist uses her body to create unusual noise



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

You can't see Sarah Kelly, but you can definitely hear her.

As part of Arts Commons's soundscape installation in its +15, you can hear Kelly's work, Aquarian Falling, which blends sounds of her body and voice.

One of the sounds, however, took many bruises to create.

Kelly said she forcefully threw herself on to a concrete floor to create those "slapping sounds" that are part of the soundscape.

"Some sounds are more startling than others," said Kelly, a local performance artist. "Other are bit more subtle."

She said she'd just close her eyes and let herself go.

"Even with these multiple bruises, I get into a trance," she said. "It's soothing."

But before she got into the zone, Kelly — who recorded the performance on video and hooked up microphones to capture every noise — said she'd watch herself fall on video to ensure the performance was authentic.

When she watched the clips, she said she noticed she kept "catching" herself before hitting the concrete.

"I thought some falls were 'fake,'" she said. "I realized I wanted to make something great, so I got into that zone to do that."

Downtown Calgary worker Meghan McMaster said she enjoys walking through the +15 to hear the sounds Arts Commons comes up with.

Kelly's work reminds her of being underwater, McMaster said.

"It's weird, but I like it," she said. "It feels like I could be in a submarine, or it's like a soundtrack to a film that doesn't have any dialogue."

Kelly said she's always been involved with sound, whether she's playing the piano or vocalizing.

But she said it's fulfilling to make sounds that are largely unfamiliar to the ear.

"I like making anything innovative and distinct," she said. "It's cool (people) won't know what they're hearing at first."

That's what she hopes the soundscape achieves — startle those walking through the +15.

"It's nice to throw people off guard."

The soundscape will be at the +15 in Arts Commons for the next few months, and Kelly will be performing her sounds live on Nov. 19 in Upper Centre Court.

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BACKSTAGE PASS

Band from Siksika Nation gearing up for Canadian tour



Lisa Wilton
Metro | Calgary

No More Moments were minutes away from taking the stage at the Vantopia music festival in Equity, Alta. when they heard the news that one of their best friends had drowned in the Bow River.

Shocked, the four members pulled themselves together and performed as best they could on that warm afternoon this past June.

It wasn't the first time the hardcore punk band from the Siksika Nation has dealt with tragedy.

Drummer and co-founder Carlin Blackrabbit said many of his peers and friends have succumbed to drugs and alcohol abuse, and that's part of what drives him to make music and put on shows for youth on the Siksika reserve.

"Our band is like a survival pack," said Blackrabbit, who also works as a child and youth care counselor at the Siksika Medicine Lodge and Youth Wellness Centre.

"I feel like our band is a celebration of life and being First Nations in Canada."

Blackrabbit formed the band in 2009 while still in high school. He said the group was seen as outsiders due to their all-black fashion choices and disinterest in sports and traditional cultural practices.

"It was an outlet for me as a teenager," said the 23-year-old musician.

"It kept me out of trouble.



"I never thought I'd be able to do that when I was a 16-year-old boy living on a reserve."

Carlin Blackrabbit



Carlin Blackrabbit, second from right, has been booking punk and metal shows on the Siksika Nation since he was 17 years old. His band, No More Moments, is set to release its latest cassette EP at the Palomino Smokehouse on Friday night. CONTRIBUTED

All my time was spent practicing and trying to get on any show possible. It helped me keep on the right path."

Although Blackrabbit has

become more involved with First Nations cultural and spiritual traditions in recent years, he admits older members of the community are

still somewhat suspicious of him and his band.

"There are some people who are reluctant to work with us," he said. "Because we

wear black they think we're devil worshippers or something."

The popularity of punk rock and metal music, however, has grown in the Siksika Nation, located an hour east of Calgary.

"Punk rock is really popular here now compared to when I was a teenager," he said.

"The cool thing is skateboarding has really grown out here too and punk and skateboarding kind of go together well. We help each other out when we can. We'll do a skateboarding event and have bands play."

No More Moments — who play The Palomino on Friday night — recently bought a 1983 Chevy van and are gearing up for their first Canadian tour, which will take them as far as Ontario.

"I never thought I'd be able to do that when I was a 16-year-old boy living on a reserve," Blackrabbit said.

"I didn't think that would ever be a possibility. I know it sounds a bit cliché, but it really is a dream come true."



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Close to 40 teams from across Canada and the U.S. will compete in the 23rd annual BBQ on the Bow Festival, taking place Friday through Sunday at Eau Claire Market. CONTRIBUTED

Chow down at BBQ fest

BACKSTAGE PASS

Competition sizzles with food trucks, beer and blues



Lisa Wilton
Metro | Calgary

The days are getting shorter, the mornings are chillier, but summer isn't over yet. Why? Because Canada's longest-running barbecue competition takes place this weekend at Eau Claire Festival Market. The 23rd annual BBQ on the Bow Festival is a free, family-friendly event that's sanctioned by the prestigious Kansas City BBQ Society.

Thirty-seven teams will be competing for the Alberta Grand Champion Prize as well as rookie and youth awards.

In addition to tasting some delicious BBQ from food trucks on site, people can listen to Alberta's best bluesmen — including Tim Williams, Ralph Boyd Johnson, Paul Kype & Texas Flood, and more — on the main stage.

Metro asks BBQ on the Bow producer Cindy McLeod what makes the festival sizzle.

Are most participants from Calgary or do you get entries from across Canada and elsewhere? Who are some of the participants to watch?

We get teams from all over. This year there are competitors from California, for example, as well as other Canadian provinces and across Alberta. We also have Village Brewery competing for the

first time.

Who are the judges and what are they looking for when they taste the selections?

BBQ on the Bow has trained over 100 Kansas City BBQ Society-sanctioned judges over the past couple of years. These judges are Albertans, many from the Calgary area. In addition, there are two head judges who travel from Kansas City to oversee the event. There are strict criteria about taste, texture and appearance, as laid out by the KCBS rules and regulations.

The barbecue method involved is slow cook, low heat, done with either charcoal pellets or wood. Teams stay up all night to watch their smokers and keep an eye on their meats to ensure they meet all the standards set out by the KCBS and improve their chances to become winners of the title.

The weekend weather forecast isn't looking great. Why should people come check it out, even if it's raining? Or snowing — it is September, after all.

As Calgarians, we're a hearty bunch and a little weather never dampens our enthusiasm for a good time. C'mon down — we have a heated beer garden tent where you can eat some delicious barbecue. On Friday, we're doing a special lunch starting at noon. Saturday and Sunday the music runs from noon until 5 p.m. and on Sunday at 5 p.m. the awards ceremony takes place.

For more information, visit bbqonthebow.com.



YOUR BEST BETS FOR WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

Friday — Mad Decent Block Party

Mad Decent kicks off a busy long weekend in Calgary with a cool lineup of international DJs and electronic acts, including Major Lazer, Daktyl, Klingande, RL Grime and local favourites Small-town DJs. The fun starts at 2 p.m. at Shaw Millennium Park. Visit maddecentblockparty.com.

Saturday — Calgary Highland Games

Started in 1913, the Calgary Highland Games is one of the longest-running events of its kind in North America. Some of the world's top Scottish drummers, pipers, dancers and heavy event athletes will compete at the Springbank Park for All Seasons. The show starts at 9:10 p.m. Visit calgaryhighlandgames.org.

Saturday — One Love Festival

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The city's Pride Week festivities wrap up with a colourful parade through downtown. Because of its remarkable growth over the past few years, the parade had moved from 8th Avenue to 9th Avenue, between 1 Street S.E. and 11 Street S.W. The parade starts at noon. Visit pridecalgary.ca

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'Step in and help the refugees'

metr The Syrian Crisis The Tragedy

Aunt speaks out about family's plight seeking asylum

The aunt of two drowned Syrian boys recalled her brother's harrowing battle to save his sons at two emotional news conferences Thursday in Coquitlam, B.C., and said the tragedy would help wake people up and pay attention to the migrant crisis.

"Now the whole world is going to watch my story. Where was all the world before when my kids were hungry? When I didn't have a job?" said Tima Kurdi.

"I want to tell the rest of the world, at this point, to step in and help the refugees."

Kurdi said her brother Abdullah described to her the horror of the boys dying in his arms and screamed: "Please don't die!" at their lifeless bodies. "He said he tried with all his power," she said.

Kurdi addressed the media twice Thursday, in order to clarify



Fatima Kurdi speaks to reporters in Coquitlam, B.C., on Thursday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

her family's plight seeking asylum in Canada.

She had applied for refugee status in Canada for her brother Mohamad, and planned to apply for Abdullah next. But when Mohamad's application was denied, she knew there was no hope bringing Abdullah here.

Kurdi said she started Moha-

mad's application first because his children were older and needed to be in school.

"It was really bad to tell them this ... I'm sorry I can't bring you here," she said.

Mohamad settled in Germany, and Abdullah wanted to follow with his own family. But Abdullah's wife was scared of the peril-

ous journey across the water to Greece, Kurdi said.

"She said to me, 'I really don't want to go, I don't know how to swim,'" Kurdi said. "I said, 'Just put your life jacket on, you'll be fine.'"

Kurdi said she did all she could to help her brothers and their families, including wiring them



I wasn't asking the Canadian government to drain the system. I can pay for everything.

Tima Kurdi, aunt of two drowned Syrian boys

\$5,000 to help pay the smuggler for their escape. "I shouldn't have sent the money," she said.

Kurdi said she moved to Canada in 1992 after marrying a Canadian and worked to bring family members to Canada and safety.

Asked what should be done to prevent future tragedies, she said: "Stop the war."

She said Abdullah now wants to travel to their hometown of Kobani in Syria near the Turkish border to bury his boys.

"He has to bury them in their own country," she said.

He also wants to put bananas on their graves, as it was their favourite treat, she said.

Kurdi praised NDP MP Fin Donnelly for trying to help and delivering a plea for assistance to Conservative Immigration Minister Chris Alexander.

"And no response," she said.

Abdullah told reporters after identifying his sons' bodies that Canadian officials had offered him citizenship after seeing

what had happened but that he declined. The Canadian government denies offering him citizenship.

Kurdi said she has not heard of anyone being offered citizenship, but wishes her family could be reunited in Canada.

"But this is the law and you have to follow it," she said.

The Kurdi family had made a privately sponsored refugee application to the Canadian authorities that was rejected in June due to complications with applications from Turkey.

Kurdi said the family had money and plenty of room to house little Alan Kurdi, his brother and parents.

Kobani, the family's hometown, has been the scene of intense fighting over the last year. In recent months Kurdish regional forces have been trying to repel attempts by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant to recapture the town.

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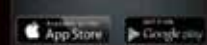
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CANADA'S ROLE

World's media note Canadian connection

Canada made negative headlines around the world Thursday as news outlets relayed information — some of it erroneous — about the Canadian connection to the lifeless Syrian toddler who washed ashore on a Turkish beach.

Some international media coverage focused on Canada's role in the tragic death of Alan Kurdi, his five-year-old brother and his mother, details of which shifted over the course of the day.

Initial news stories reported that the family had been refused asylum in Canada.

However, the boy's aunt in British Columbia later explained that, while the family wanted to come to Canada, the boy's father had not yet formally applied for safe haven. It was another relative, the boy's uncle, who had applied and been rebuffed.

In any case, the story circled the globe, with one report saying Canada had offered citizenship

to the child's father, the only surviving member of Kurdi's family, but he had declined.

A headline across Italy's La Repubblica website quoted the boy's father: "I don't want asylum in Canada anymore — I'll take my son back to Kobane."

Canadian immigration officials later said no offer of citizenship was made.

The U.K.'s Independent newspaper ran a headline about the federal campaign: "Canadian

immigration minister suspends election campaign to investigate why Syrian family's refugee application was refused."

It was a similar headline in Algeria's El Watan newspaper, which carried the early incorrect detail: "Canada refused asylum to the family of little Alan Kurdi."

Most of these stories were sidebars to the bigger-picture issue of the worst displaced-persons' crisis since the Second World War. THE CANADIAN PRESS



In this June 8, 1972, photo, South Vietnamese forces follow after terrified children, including 9-year-old Kim Phuc, right, as they run down Route 1 near Trang Bang after an aerial napalm attack on suspected Viet Cong hiding places. It remains to be seen whether the photo of Alan Kurdi's lifeless body on a Turkish beach will, like the photo of Phuc, galvanize people into action. NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Image recalls past horrors

metr The Syrian Crisis
The World Reacts

Photo of dead child on beach part of a sad global legacy

The photo of the dead three-year-old Syrian boy on a Turkish beach is haunting. It captures everything we don't want to see when we tap our phones or open our newspapers: a vicious civil war, a surge of refugees, the death of an innocent.

The image of little Alan Kurdi is hammering home the Syrian migrant crisis to the world, largely through social media. Alan died along with his five-year-old brother and their mother when their small rubber boat capsized as it headed for Greece. The Associated Press distributed the photos to its subscribers. The photos were from the Turkish news agency DHA.

"It is a very painful picture to view," said Peter Bouckaert, who as director of emergencies at Human Rights Watch has witnessed his fair share of painful scenes. "It had me in tears when it first showed up on my mobile phone. I had to think hard whether to share this."

But share, he did. Bouckaert, who is in Hungary watching the crisis unfold, said people need to be pushed to look at the "ghastly spectacle" so they can, in turn, prod governments to help the suffering Syrian people.

Still, will the disturbing image galvanize people into action? Will it be like other seared-in-our-memory photographs — a vulture hovering over a starving child in Sudan, a girl fleeing a napalm attack in Vietnam, the child in a firefighter's arms after the Oklahoma City bombing?

Or will it become just another of the many images on social media, lost amid the din?

"One of the things about this story is that it's really difficult sometimes for the world to get a handle on it," said Al Tompkins, a senior faculty member at the Poynter Institute, a centre for media studies in St. Petersburg, Florida. "Regardless of the technology, a singular iconic image can still touch us in ways."

And that singular image is often of a child. That was the cold fact that unsettled people around the globe.

Kathleen Fetter's-Iossi, a 47-year-old fiction writer from Wisconsin, said she hopes people share the images to create awareness, then go beyond that to try to help in some way. But she has her doubts any concrete action will come of it.

"Most Americans, if they're just now becoming aware of this issue, will ultimately feel there's nothing we can do," she said. "They feel like we can't handle our own immigration problem, let alone Europe's. Social media can help by creating wider awareness, but ultimately, 'clicktivism' didn't help the Nigerian girls, and it's not going to help those migrants."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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The Power to Surprise

Ottawa set to open its doors: Mayor



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson sent a formal letter to Canada's immigration minister Thursday, saying the city wants to open its doors to more refugees fleeing war-torn Syria.

The mayor's urgent outreach to Chris Alexander comes after a photo emerged of a lifeless three-year-old Syrian boy, Alan Kurdi, washed up on a beach on the shores of Turkey, which has sparked worldwide outrage.

The dramatic photo, splashed across newspapers around the

world, has put a human face on the refugee crisis in Europe that has worsened in recent months.

The letter said Watson is watching the events surrounding the crisis "with great concern" and affirmed he is committed to assisting with the settlement in Canada's capital of those affected.

"I would like to ask for the support of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and other relevant federal partners to identify what role the municipal sector could play," wrote Watson.

"It would be helpful if you could assign a senior official to liaise with City of Ottawa staff to ensure a strong co-ordination of federal plans on the local level."

Federal government urged to step up



Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

A member of the Syrian community in Winnipeg says the disturbing image of a boy who drowned while his family was fleeing Syria is a reminder of how much more the Canadian government should be doing to help Middle Eastern refugees.

It had been reported that the boy's family had tried to get into Canada but their refugee application had been denied in June. However, Prime Minister Stephen Harper denies the families had applied to get into the country.

"It is sad the world has to see horrible images like this in order to act," said Tarek Habash, of the Syrian Assembly of Manitoba.

Canada must start allowing more refugees into the country and speed up the process for them to get in, said Habash.

"Other countries with far less resources have taken in far more refugees," said Habash.



Tarek Habash METRO

Habash knows Syrian families in Winnipeg who are working to privately sponsor loved ones to come to Canada, but he said the Canadian government is making that process far too difficult.

"It can take one to two years after applying, but there isn't time to wait. These people are often fleeing their homes with nothing more than the clothes on their back."

Habash is also concerned the Harper government will try to fix the problem by stepping up the military fight against ISIS.

"That will not be the solution. This crisis started before the rise of ISIS, and there are refugees fleeing parts of the country not ruled by ISIS."



A refugee looks at the barbed wire fence from the Serbian side of the border to the Hungarian town of Roszke on Thursday.

SANTI PALACIOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Slow process spawns 'desperate measures'

metr The Syrian Crisis
Canadians Rally

Applicants face long wait to settle in Canada legally

Neal Hall
For Metro

Syrian refugees are taking desperate measures to come to Canada because of the complex and lengthy process, says a Vancouver immigration lawyer.

"Current processing times are four to five years," Laura Best said regarding the legal process

for Syrian refugees to come to Canada, many of whom have friends and relatives here who sponsor them.

She said some try to enter Canada on visitor visas and then seek refugee status, but since the start of the war in Syria, the federal government often refuses visitor visas on the belief that they will not return to their home country.

"What we're seeing is that when legal avenues are closed, desperate measures are taken," Best said, referring to media stories of a man trying to flee Turkey for Greece by boat with his family, reportedly with the goal of living with his brother in Coquitlam.

The boat capsized and the man's wife and two young children drowned. Photos of the



The numbers that Canada is talking about resettling is so low.... 3,000 a year (from Syria) is a drop in the bucket.

Immigration lawyer
Laura Best

tragedy are horrifying evidence of the Syrian crisis.

Best said those seeking to legally enter Canada can either seek refugee sponsorship by the Canadian government or private sponsorship through church groups and non-government or-

ganizations. Another option is the G5 program: having a group of five Canadian adults sponsor a refugee and having representatives in the area where the refugee plans to live.

Prior to 2012, those coming through the G5 program did not need to be recognized as refugees by either the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or a foreign state — the Canadian government would do the assessment of whether they met the definition of a refugee, Best said.

But since 2012, after amendments to Immigration and Refugee Protection regulations, Canada now requires G5 refugees to acquire a determination from the UNHCR or a third state to come through the program, Best said.

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks about the Syrian refugee crisis during a campaign event in Surrey, B.C., on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Policy won't stop refugee deaths: PM

metr The Syrian Crisis
The Political Fallout

Immigration minister halts campaign in wake of tragedy

Prime Minister Stephen Harper says Canada's refugee policy isn't enough to stop the tragic deaths of refugees in Europe.

"We could drive ourselves crazy with grief, obviously we try to do what we can do to help," Harper said, but added that more resources to speed up the flow of refugees is not "of itself a reasonable moral reaction or solution to this problem."

Speaking at a Conservative rally in Surrey, B.C., Harper addressed the refugee crises in Europe that hit home yesterday when photographs of a drowned Syrian three-year-old boy made headlines. He said he and his wife found it "heart-wrenching."

But Harper said the report that the child pictured in the image and his family was denied refugee asylum is "not correct."

"There was no record of an application received for Mr. Abdullah Kurdi and his family," Citizenship and Immigration Canada spokesman Jean-Bruno Villeneuve said in a statement. "Refugee policy alone is not a solution to this process," Harper said.

News of the tragedy derailed Conservative election campaign events Thursday.

Defence Minister Jason Kenney cancelled a security-related immigration announcement; Harper delayed an infrastructure announcement.

Immigration Minister Chris Alexander dropped campaign plans to rush to Ottawa and "ascertain both the facts of the case of the Kurdi family and to receive an update on the migrant crisis," he said in an emailed statement.

The boys' father, Abdullah Kurdi, told reporters after identifying his sons' bodies Thursday that Canadian officials had offered him citizenship after seeing what had happened but that he declined.

"Canada did not offer citizenship to Mr. Abdullah Kurdi," immigration spokesman Villeneuve said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Immigration minister rising star in PM's cabinet

The Conservative candidate who finds himself at the centre of controversy over Canada's response to the European refugee crisis is a respected former diplomat who is considered a rising star in Stephen Harper's government.

Chris Alexander, the candidate for Ajax-Pickering and Harper's minister of citizenship and immigration, dropped his re-election campaign on Thursday after poignant photos of a Syrian boy who drowned off the coast of Turkey were seen around the world.

In an email to Torstar News

Service, Alexander said he was returning to Ottawa to be briefed on the migrant crisis.

NDP candidate Fin Donnelly told The Canadian Press that the boy's family had been trying to come to Canada, and Donnelly had personally asked Alexander to look into the case.

Before entering politics, Alexander, 46, made a name for himself in the world of international diplomacy.

In 2011, he beat Liberal incumbent Mark Holland to become MP for the riding of Ajax-Pickering,

and, despite his age and inexperience as an MP, was appointed to cabinet two years later.

As minister of citizenship and immigration he presided over sweeping reforms to Canada's immigration system that he said were necessary to eliminate fraud and wasteful spending, but were heavily criticized by refugee advocates and opposition parties.

On Wednesday night, as photos of three-year-old Alan Kurdi's lifeless body were already being seen around the world, Alexander defended Can-

+ REFORMS

The reforms to Canada's immigration system included reducing social assistance to refugees and imposing stricter conditions on obtaining citizenship.

ada's response to the refugee crisis on the CBC, saying the country is "a model of humanitarian action."

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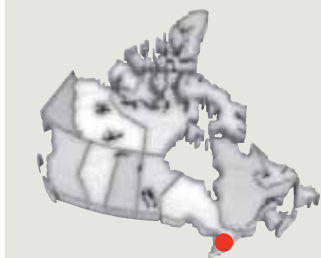
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Stephen Harper's itinerary was unavailable.



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Religious strife at heart of conflict

metr The Syrian Crisis The Tragedy

Hundreds of thousands are dead, millions are displaced



Luke Simcoe
Metro|Toronto

Fighting in Syria has claimed the lives of 240,000 people, many of them civilians, and nearly half of the country's 23 million residents have been displaced.

This is how the crisis began, and what Canada is doing to help.

- **1963:** The Ba'athist regime, led by General Hafez al-Assad, seizes power in Syria in a coup d'état. The Assad family is seen to represent Syria's Shi'ite Muslims, leading to tensions with the country's majority Sunni population, as well as a minority of ethnic Kurds.
- **2000:** Hafez al-Assad dies, passing control of the country to his

son, Bashar al-Assad.

- **January 2011:** What's now known as the Syrian Civil War begins with the Arab Spring of 2011. Protests are staged across the country calling for Assad's resignation and the end of Ba'athist rule. Assad responds to the protests with military force, leading to the death of hundreds of protestors.

- **July 2011:** By the latter half of 2011, a coalition of armed forces known as the Free Syrian Army has formed to oppose Assad's military. Fighting erupts in several Syrian towns and the tide of displaced refugees begins.

- **April 2012:** Kofi Annan, acting as the United Nations representative for Syria, tries unsuccessfully to broker a ceasefire between the Assad regime and the FSA.

- **June 2012:** The UN officially declares Syria to be in a state of civil war.

- **2013:** Throughout 2013, the conflict in Syria attracts Islamic extremists and other militants from the surrounding region, including the newly formed Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, or ISIS).

- **July 2013:** Canadian Immigration Minister Jason Kenney pledges



Refugees from Syria walk along the roads of the border town of Idomeni in northern Greece, hoping to cross into Macedonia on Tuesday, Aug. 25. SANTI PALACIOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

es to bring 1,300 Syrian refugees to Canada by the end of 2014. The Conservatives claim this target was met by March 2015, although organizations working with the refugees have disputed the government's numbers.

- **October 2014:** The Canadian Parliament approves air strikes against ISIL targets in Syria. Throughout the conflict, the Conservative government has focused its messaging on

combating extremists in the region rather than the humanitarian crisis. For example, in the government's official timeline of the crisis — available online — the phrase ISIS is used 55 times, while "refugee" appears only twice.

- **January 2015:** The federal government announces plans to take in 10,000 Syrian refugees over the next three years. At this point in the conflict, Germany

has already accepted at least 70,000 refugees from Syria.

- **August 2015:** The Conservatives reiterate their plan to resettle 10,000 refugees from war-torn Syria, saying they will open additional spots for persecuted religious minorities. To date, however, the country has only accepted about 2,500 refugees.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS AND TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

4,088,078

The number of Syrian refugees around the world registered with the United Nations as of Aug. 29, 2015.

7.6M

The estimated number of Syrians who have been displaced within the country.

\$700M

Canada's contribution to aid efforts in Syria.

2,302

The number of Syrian refugees resettled in Canada, as of July 27, 2015.

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Q&A: Why are they fleeing?

metr The Syrian Crisis The Tragedy

Here's a look at the conflict and what compels Syrians to attempt the treacherous journey to Europe:

WHAT ARE THEY ESCAPING?

Barrel bombs, chemical weapons attacks, beheadings and starvation, to name just a few. Most of the refugees are driven by an overriding need to escape what has essentially become hell on earth, caught between Syrian President Bashar Assad's ruthless war machine and the Islamic State group's brutality. Many Syrians say most unbearable are the barrel bombs dropped daily on opposition-held areas by Syrian army helicopters. The makeshift, shrapnel-packed explosive devices known by Syrians as death barrels pulverize entire neighbourhoods once they hit the ground. They have killed tens of thousands of people

over the past four years, according to human rights organizations. Islamic State militants have also been responsible for the exodus out of Syria. The militant group's takeover of a key town on the Turkish border in June, for instance, triggered a rush of desperate refugees pouring into Turkey, with some throwing their children over the border fence in a desperate attempt to get them to safety.

WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS?

Syria's brutal conflict, now in its fifth year, has touched off the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time, according to UN officials. The organization estimates that around 250,000 people have been killed and more than one million wounded since March 2011. About half the country's prewar population of 23 million has been displaced, including more than four million who have fled Syria. Tactics such as encircling populated areas have caused untold cases of starva-

tion, malnutrition and chronic illness. A UN report released Thursday said more than 2,000 Syrians refugees have drowned in desperate efforts to reach safety in Europe since 2011.

WHY DO THEY GO TO EUROPE?

For many Syrians, a perilous journey to Europe with an uncertain future is better than certain death in Syria. Many say their overriding goal is to secure a better future for their children. Some of Syria's neighbours, which initially took in hundreds of thousands of refugees, say they can no longer afford to host them. Some have closed their borders while others are enforcing restrictions that increasingly make it difficult for refugees to stay or find work. Gulf countries are not taking refugees, and countries like Iraq and Lebanon are unstable, making the idea of life in Europe more appealing.

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Over 150,000 people have reached Hungary this year, most coming through the southern border with Serbia, and many apply for asylum but quickly try to leave for richer EU countries, like Germany. ZOLTAN BALOGH/MTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Migrants taken to asylum camps

metr The Syrian Crisis
The Political Fallout

New standoff after station halts service to Western Europe

Thousands of people desperate to reach Western Europe rushed into a Budapest train station Thursday after police ended a two-day blockade, setting off a wave of anger and confusion as hundreds shoved their way onto a waiting train. But when it tried to drop them off at a Hungarian camp for asylum seekers, a bitter showdown began.

One man threw his wife and infant son onto the tracks, screaming in Arabic, "We won't move from here!" Police surrounded the prone family, pulled the husband away and handcuffed him as he wealed. His wife and diaper-clad boy — apparently uninjured — were freed and allowed to rejoin other migrants.

The scene was just one of many that unfolded Thursday as tempers flared in Hungary's war of wills with migrants trying to evade asylum checks and reach Western Europe.

As Hungary's anti-immigrant prime minister warned European partners that he intends to

make his country's borders an impassable fortress for new arrivals, his government struggled to coax thousands of unwanted visitors away from the Budapest transportation hub that has been turned into a squalid refugee camp.

People fleeing war and poverty in the Middle East, Asia and Africa rushed into the Keleti train terminal when police unexpectedly withdrew Thursday morning, ending a blockade designed to stop migrants from boarding trains to their desired destinations in Germany and Austria.

In desperate scenes, people pushed each other to reach the train's six carriages, thinking that getting on board meant they would be first to escape Hungary. But instead of heading to the Austrian border, the overloaded train stopped at Bicske, a town northwest of Budapest that holds one of the country's five camps for asylum seekers — facilities the migrants want to avoid because they don't want to pursue asylum claims in economically depressed Hungary. As the train platform filled with police came into view, those inside chanted their disapproval.

The crowd, angrily waving train tickets to Vienna and Munich, refused police orders to board buses to the asylum centre, pushing their way past police and back onto the train.

A day-long standoff ensued in which police and charity workers took turns handing food and water to the passengers, only to have them tossed out train windows in protest.

Back at the Budapest train station, announcements in Hungarian and English — but not Arabic, the language of most of those gathered inside — declared that all services from the station to Western Europe had been cancelled. A statement in English on the main departures board said no more trains to Austria or Germany would leave "due to safety reasons until further notice!"

Conditions at Keleti station have grown increasingly unsanitary despite the efforts of volunteers distributing water, food, medicine and disinfectants. The numbers of those stuck there have swelled since Hungary reversed course Tuesday after allowing more than 2,000 migrants to travel on trains heading west the day before. Thousands were stranded after buying tickets costing 61 to 122 euros (\$68 to \$136).

Hungary's rail company said Thursday it was refusing to refund the tickets at the station, citing fears that some may be counterfeit. It said ticket-holders must file refund requests in writing and have the reimbursement mailed to them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MIGRANTS AT LEAST 14 KILLED OFF MALAYSIAN COAST A rescue team unloads the body of a victim retrieved from a search operation near the area where a boat carrying Indonesian migrants sank near Hutan Melintang, Perak, in Malaysia. The wooden boat crammed with migrant workers who were headed back to Indonesia capsized Thursday off Malaysia's western coast, killing at least 14 people, a maritime official said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIBYA

Envoys optimistic about unity talks

In signs of a possible breakthrough, newly appointed envoys from Libya's Islamist-backed government in Tripoli say they are optimistic about a possible deal toward creating a unity government — on condition that a draft accord is modified first.

The four-man delegation from the GNC party, which had shunned talks toward a deal for weeks, arrived in Geneva for UN-brokered discussions attended by all major factions about the future of a country now run by rival governments and facing a

growing presence of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant amid violence, chaos and instability.

The expression of optimism by a new team of envoys marked a rare positive note in a divisive process that has dragged on for more than seven months under the watchful eye of world powers.

The UN special representative for Libya, Bernardino Leon, was mediating the latest round of talks that opened Thursday. Parties are to present their candidates for the prime minister and

two deputies to lead a national unity government and get the war-torn country out of its crisis.

GNC envoy Abdurrahman Al Sewehli told a few reporters that "we are optimistic, that is why we are here," but said the delegation hasn't yet presented a list of proposed names for those posts.

He said the party's priority is to "work out the commitment to the draft agreement," and said he hoped for a deal "if we can resolve the issue of the amendments" — though he declined to identify the exact changes

sought. GNC had previously rejected the draft accord.

The party is fresh off talks Wednesday with Leon in Istanbul. It had balked at attending an earlier round of multiparty talks in Morocco last month where the draft accord was struck because high-profile resignations required a new negotiating team.

Libya is currently divided between a government in Tripoli and the internationally recognized government in Tobruk to the east.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope reacts with blessing

metr The Syrian Crisis
The world reacts

Refugees and immigrants in N.Y.C. will meet Catholic leader

Pope Francis will offer a special blessing to a group of immigrants and refugees in New York, including those who are undocumented, highlighting two contentious issues in American politics.

The Sept. 25 encounter with about 150 mostly Spanish-speaking New Yorkers "is about the values and the message that he has articulated as Pope," the head of New York's Catholic Charities, Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, told a news conference Thursday at a church in Harlem.

Francis has made helping immigrants a top priority of his pontificate, decrying what he called the "globalization of indifference" toward migrants and

refugees. The Pope will address a joint meeting of Congress on Sept. 24, where he is expected to press lawmakers for generous and welcoming policies toward immigrants. His efforts come as questions intensify about inaction over Syria's civil war and Europe's migrant crisis.

Among those the Pope will bless at Our Lady Queen of Angels School in East Harlem are youngsters from violence-torn Central American countries who crossed the border alone, refugees who fled persecution and are seeking asylum, struggling American-born minorities and disabled immigrants. Francis will also meet a group of Catholic schoolchildren.

Manhattan resident Yvette Suazo, her 14-year-old daughter Chelsea and four-year-old son Kingston hitchhiked from Honduras to the U.S. about two years ago. Life at home had become precarious, with her daughter in danger of being raped each time she left the house, the mother said after the news conference.

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NOTICE OF HEARING FOR: Permanent Guardianship Order To Norman Black Plume

Take notice that on the **21st day of September 2015 at 9:30 a.m.**, at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order**; of your child born on **April 22, 2015**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes. You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Elice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR Permanent Guardianship Order To Andrew Levis

Take notice that on the **16th of September 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**, at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: Custody Order; **Permanent Guardianship Order** of your child born on **June 18, 2012**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes. You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Elice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
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WHEN THERE ARE NO WORDS: ARTISTS SKETCH THEIR GRIEF FOR ALAN KURDI



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(This is a quotation from the poet
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What you can do to help Syrian refugees in crisis



Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Sadly, it took a heartbreaking picture of a three-year old lifeless body, face-down on the shore, for the world to pay closer attention to a crisis in Syria that has raged for more than four years.

At the office of Lifeline Syria, a Toronto-based initiative fighting to bring 1,000 Syrian refugees to Canada in the next two years, phones were ringing off the hook Thursday.

"I think the events of the last few days have really brought the situation to a peak in terms of public awareness and concern," Naomi Alboim, a member of the group's executive committee, told me.

That's a good thing. Don't get me wrong. What's not so good is that tragedy had to happen before the world reacted. Lifeline Syria has

been urging people to attend its recruitment and training sessions on sponsoring Syrian refugees for months. At each of the past three such meetings, only about 100 people attended. With the new developments, and many more people coming forward, the Sept. 16 gathering could host well over 300 potential sponsors.

Alboim says individuals and groups who want to get involved should focus on raising funds — Citizenship and Immigration Canada requires that sponsors be able to provide \$26,000 for a family of four. More information on how to get involved can be found at www.lifelinesyria.ca.

If you can't sponsor, donate. There are many organizations working directly in and around Syrian borders to help care for people in need.

UNICEF Canada called Syria the most dangerous place to be a child, and launched an emergency appeal to save Syr-

ian children. You can donate through their website, www.unicef.ca.

Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontières, or MSF) Canada is another organization that sends medical and humanitarian staff to provide emergency health care to Syrian refugees inside Syria, and in Turkey, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. You can donate through this page: www.msf.ca/en/donate-now.

More importantly, Canadians should pressure the government to simplify and speed up what has become a slow and complex sponsorship-application process. The Citizenship and Immigration website advises that applications typically take years to come to completion. And even the most urgent and luckiest applicants will wait more than six months.

Alboim, who once worked for the federal government, says she doesn't understand how the waiting times have

It's important, as policy-makers seek military and diplomatic solutions, that ordinary citizens continue to think about ordinary lives caught in the turmoil.

gotten so long. She remembers that it used to take just days to get an application through.

"Six days is too long for people in desperation," she says.

It's important, as policy-makers seek military and diplomatic solutions to geopolitical problems, that ordinary citizens continue to think about ordinary lives caught in the turmoil, and find ways to chip in.

Let's not wait for the next tragedy to stir us to action.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

If this is generous, Syrians are screwed. Resign, Alexander.

This should be the end. Not only of the Conservative's heel-dragging to settle desperate Syrian refugees, but of the political career of Chris Alexander.

On CBC's Power and Politics Wednesday, after the world saw the image of a dead boy tossed limply onto sand, the minister of citizenship and immigration scoffed at criticism of his government's response to the global refugee crisis.

The man, who in 2014 grossly misrepresented how few Syrians his government had settled, turned his evasive tongue on the media.

"The biggest conflict and humanitarian crisis of our time has been there for two years, and you and others have not put it in the headlines where it deserves to be," he accused.

A blatant lie, but worse, a callous remark. He was picking fights while people are dying.

The government maintains its refugee policy isn't to blame for the young boys' deaths. It's wrong.

We have an application bureaucracy that some of the boys' extended family had already found impossible to navigate, requiring documents that some refugees can't produce. So, instead, the boy's aunt paid for him, his brother and parents to flee on a boat. Only the father survived.

When the application process is deemed futile by those it could save, that's deadly.

Across the country,

Canadians have battled the government to sponsor more Syrian refugees. Nova Scotia lobbied for that right, and met silence. And, because privately-sponsored Syrian refugees must have support from friends or family, Mennonites in Alberta have partnered with Syrians already in Canada to get more refugees to safety.

Yesterday, Alexander touted Canada as home to "one of the most generous per capita immigration and refugee resettlement programs in the world." That is technically true, but in no way laudable.

There are four million Syrian refugees. The government has taken 2,500 so far, and, amid mounting pressure and an election campaign, committed this year to take a mere 20,000. If we're the most generous, Syrians are screwed.

Margaret Wente described Alexander in 2011 as an "unabashed idealist" and humanitarian. But there's no idealism in the Conservatives' treatment of refugees. Only an un-Canadian stinginess, and a cold disregard for human life.

No one man or country can fix a global humanitarian crisis. But one man can be held responsible for Canada's lacklustre efforts.

The dead boy is "reminding Canadians of our duty," Alexander said last night, in a mea-culpa appearance on Power and Politics. But time is up: He's already failed in his.

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IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



The summer movie season began amid doom and gloom. I don't mean George Miller's filling screens with his dystopian vision of the future in *Mad Max: Fury Road* or the career ending fallout from the Sony hack. No, I mean the sky-is-falling predictions that circulated about the movie business.

Box office is down! No one goes to the movies anymore! And best of all: Movies are dead!

To paraphrase Mark Twain, I'm happy to say the reports of the death of cinema have been greatly exaggerated. The summer box office of 2015 will go down in the record books as the second-biggest in history with almost seven billion dollars generated by *Minions*, *Ant-Man*, *Mad Max*, dinosaurs and a sad little girl named Riley.

Superheroes helped put bums in seats, but 2015 won't be remembered as the Year of Ultron. Now that the summer silly season is over, a definite trend toward female-driven movies like *Trainwreck*, *Pitch Perfect 2* and *Spy* showed that, as Amy Schumer told me,



From *Mad Max* to *Trainwreck*, people flocked to the movies in huge numbers this summer, filling seats not simply to sit in air conditioning or dine on popcorn, but to participate in a time-honoured tradition, writes Richard Crouse. HANDOUT

Hollywood has finally realized "our money works, too. Our banks also accept the female dollar."

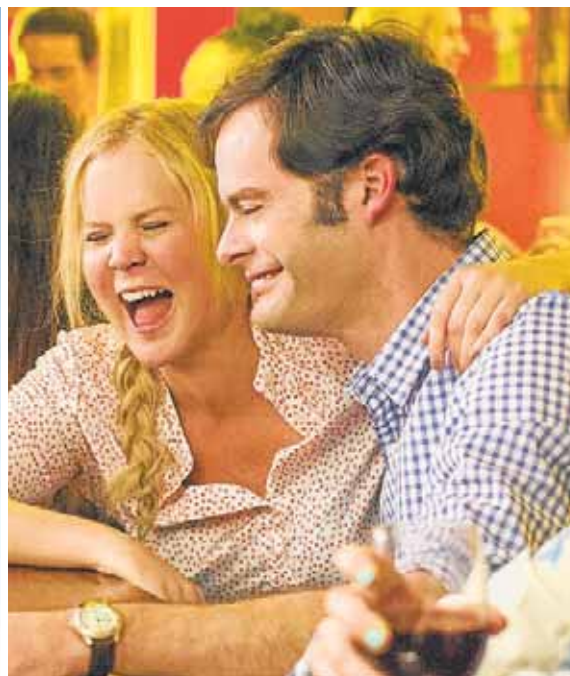
But it wasn't just women going to the movies. With *Jurassic World* pulling in 1.6 billion samolians worldwide, it seems everyone put down the remote and went to the cinema.

We didn't rush out to everything — cash grabs like *Ted 2* and *Terminator: Genisys* flopped — but the naysayers, the folks who, in January, were

declaring movies to be a thing of the past, an old outmoded form of entertainment in the digital age, missed the point.

People flocked to the movies in huge numbers this summer, filling seats and studio bank accounts, not simply to sit in air conditioning for a few hours as relief from the summer heat or to dine out on popcorn and Twizzlers, but to engage in an age-old ritual.

Of course, you can watch movies at home or on your



sharing entertainment with a large group of strangers. It's a primal thing, hard-wired into our DNA, that dates back to when tribes of cave dwellers would sit around fires and tell stories through to the Globe Theatre, vaudeville, the talkies and right up to today's IMAX and AUX screenings.

People have gathered to be entertained since there were tales to be told because there is no better way to enjoy the storytelling experience than surrounded by strangers who are laughing, crying, gasping—whatever — in response to a shared event.

No matter how large your TV or comfortable your sofa, home viewing misses the magical element of community. In the theatre you're getting the sound and the picture the director intended, but more than that the experience brings people together, inspires conversation, respect and triggers actual physical interaction with others. Try that as you stream a movie on your iPhone.

Of course, as in any other community there are a few troublemakers — texters, seat kickers — but I spend more time in theatres than most and find the pros far outweigh any negatives.

In the era of home entertainment the idea of going to the movies may sound old fashioned or quaint but I like the way English novelist Angela Carter described watching a film in a theatre. She called it "dreaming the same dream in unison" and that, for me will never go out of style.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

A Walk in the Woods ★★★
The Transporter Refueled ★
Dragon Blade ★★★
Mountain Men ★★★

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 ★★★ WORTHWHILE
 ★★ UP TO YOU
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phone. New technology has made it easier than ever to enjoy a film from the comfort of your couch on a 60-inch screen with surround

sound and healthy, homemade snacks, but no matter what set-up you may have in your living room, the thing missing is the ancient practice of

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Jackie Chan still kicking it on screen

INTERVIEW

At 61, the action star shows no signs of slowing down

Steve Gow
Metro Life

He may have karate-chopped his way to become one of the world's biggest actors, but even 40 years of action haven't slowed down Jackie Chan. *Dragon Blade* — the Hong Kong star's latest thriller — sees the much-loved martial artist leading a theorized war epic about lost Romans duelling Chinese guards along the Silk Road trade route. Metro caught up with Chan to find out why, at 61, he's happy to keep filming.

Dragon Blade was the most expensive Chinese film ever made. Why was it so important to you?

The heart of this story is completely captivating. The idea that the world's two greatest

civilizations had an encounter that was never recorded in history! How could I not want to make this film? It also allows me to touch on philosophical issues that are important to me and to director Daniel Lee — like peace.

Even though *Dragon Blade* is an action film, there are bits of comedy. Is comedy just natural for you as an actor?

It's not necessarily deliberate but it just comes out. My next film is also an action-comedy so I guess I can never fully escape the genre. But I'm trying to vary my range and be seen as an actor who does comedy and action. I hope you'll recognize that in *Dragon Blade*.

You've said that when you were young, box-office success was important. How has that changed?

The box office result was very important when I was young. If my films had no box office, people wouldn't invite me to make another film. I had to feed my family, so making money came first...now I feel a responsibility towards society and the world. So my

+ SEQUELS

More Rush Hour?

The buddy-cop franchise that paired Chan with funnyman Chris Tucker has spawned two sequels with another possibly on the way. "Chris and I both agreed that we need a really good story to move forward," said Chan. "People keep asking me about *Rush Hour*, so I guess we better work harder."

mind has changed and I don't care so much about the box office. I want to make the movies I want to make and spread my message.

You have lots of upcoming projects — what can you tell me about *Karate Kid 2*?

The next *Karate Kid* script is still being written. On the one hand we want a script that everybody is proud of so we've been really demanding. On the other hand, Jaden is getting older. Soon, he'll be taller than me and his dad! But I can see it happening soon.



Jackie Chan stars in *Dragon Blade*, the most expensive Chinese film ever made. It opens this Friday. HANDOUT

FILM

Sisto holds court in tennis flick

Jeremy Sisto spent years working with screenwriter pal Gene Hong to bring *Break Point*, his new tennis comedy, to life. The film follows a washed-up tennis pro roping his estranged brother (David Walton) into making another bid for on-court glory. He just maybe didn't consider how much actual tennis he'd have to play while filming it.

You've been very involved with this for project for a long time.

Yeah, me and Gene, the writer, used to play tennis and talk about movies, and we thought there was a space for a good tennis comedy that hadn't been made yet. And then he wrote a screenplay and we went out and tried to get it set up and all that rigmarole. It's just exhausting, I mean, the whole thing is exhausting. I wasn't sure it was worth all the effort, and I know when we finished the film I was definitely like, "I don't know, if A, it was worth it or B, I want to do that again." But now talking about it, I feel some pride and I feel proud of the people involved and proud to be involved with them.

Just the challenge of filming an actual athletic effort sounds exhausting.
I'm kind of like a kid, if there's



Jeremy Sisto
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

a ball and a hoop and a goal, I'm over there getting sweaty and pissing off makeup, so to be able to do it and not piss off makeup was pretty much a dream. But yeah, the first couple of days out there, me and David, we would continue playing when the cameras weren't rolling, so by the end of the day we were spent. So we decided that probably wasn't a good idea for the rest of the shoot.

Not a lot of longevity in that.
No, but playing in front of people is not something I was used to at all, so that defin-

itely took some getting used to. I didn't play a lot of sports as a kid, so I didn't have that comfort level, but I think that added a lot of grit to the feeling of us out there. There was a tension every shot, and that's how it feels to be a professional tennis player. It's a super difficult sport, where if every part of your body isn't working just right with the right syncopation, then boom, ball's going out and you're losing points, and so there is a real intense mental component to the game.

When you play a tennis player with a temper, is there this spectre of John McEnroe there the whole time? He's kind of cornered the market on that.

Yeah, totally. The difference is, there's a lot of etiquette rules in tennis and the idea is this guy, Jimmy, he really enjoys crossing those. He enjoys making people uncomfortable. John McEnroe was so angry and so emotionally unhinged at those moments that he couldn't not go after someone. Whereas with Jimmy, he's almost doing it to amuse himself to some degree, it's almost that he's not taking the game as seriously as everyone else is.

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN


After Will schools a Harvard 'Michael Bolton clone' in the bar where he first meets Skylar, he tells the grad student, "I got her numba. How do you like dem apples?"

who'd just won Oscars for their story about an orphan-turned-janitor at MIT who could solve equations on napkins that only a handful of people in the world could also figure out.

Good Will Hunting stayed with me — maybe because it's the last film I remember seeing in a theatre with my mom and brother. I can recite nearly the entire thing, which makes me a very annoying viewing companion.

I could see regret in the eyes of my partner, Simon, when we watched it Saturday night. I announced at least five times that my favourite scene was coming up: I recited the jokes (in a Boston accent) before the characters did; and, like clockwork, I cried at the end when Will's therapist Sean, a role which earned Robin Williams an



Academy Award, confronts him. "It's not your fault."

Every year around Labour Day, I watch it. Maybe that's on account of the campus scenes — the hustle and bustle of students toting backpacks in lecture halls.

Or maybe it's the apples.

You know the scene: After Will schools a Harvard "Michael Bolton clone" in the bar where he first meets Skylar, he tells the grad student, "I got her numba. How do you like dem apples?"

Coincidentally, my neighbour messaged me on Sun-

day to say that her apple tree was bearing more fruit than she knew what to do with and gave me enough for at least a couple of pies.

The only trouble was when I bit down into one, I knew I couldn't bear to bake them. They are small and tart, with a touch of sweet, and possess a crunch that caused me to have a Proustian moment: These are the apples of my childhood. The kind we'd pick every autumn and devour before my mom could use them up for something else. The kind that made me spit the mealy, imported sort.

I still occasionally daydream about Damon and Affleck. Does Matt now lecture Ben on how to make a marriage last? Do they get together every now and then, and watch J Lo's Jenny From the Block video?

Does something as simple as a perfectly tart apple remind them of bygone days, when they brought their moms to the Academy Awards on the cusp of finding fame and fortune?

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

MOVIE BRIEFS
Blanchett to play iconic star of I Love Lucy fame

Actress Cate Blanchett will take on the role of Lucille Ball in an upcoming biopic, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Aaron Sorkin will write the script for the film, which will focus on the iconic actress's life and long-spanning career. Ball won four Emmys during her career and was nominated 13 times.

She held the starring role in TV sitcoms I Love Lucy, The Lucy Show, Life with Lucy, The Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour and Here's Lucy.

Lucie Arnaz and Desi Arnaz Jr., Ball's children with husband Desi Arnaz, will produce the film alongside Escape Artists.

Australian actress Blanchett has most recently been seen in films Cinderella and Carol. AFP



Cate Blanchett.
GETTY IMAGES

HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

DreamWorks looking for new park to play in, sources say

Steven Spielberg's DreamWorks film studio plans to part ways with Disney when their distribution tie-up ends in a year's time, an industry source told AFP on Wednesday.

Trade reports suggest Spielberg is looking to negotiate a new partnership with more favourable terms, boosted by the runaway success of Jurassic World, on which he was executive producer.

Universal — the Hollywood studio behind the blockbuster dinosaur series — is being tipped as Spielberg's likely new home by both the Hollywood Reporter and Variety.

According to an industry in-

sider who did not wish to be named, it is too soon to say who will be distributing DreamWorks' production after the Disney deal ends on Aug. 16, 2016.

But the source told AFP that DreamWorks, which Spielberg helped found in 1994, feels out of step with the Disney model and its focus on big, tentpole films such as new Star Wars instalments or Pixar's animated mega-hit Inside Out.

Disney's focus — exemplified by the acquisition in recent years of Marvel, Lucasfilm and Pixar — is firmly on movies that can be spun off into lucrative video games, amusement parks, branded toys and

knick-knacks.

DreamWorks meanwhile has been focusing on smaller, adult-oriented movies such as The Help or, more recently, The Hundred-Foot Journey with Helen Mirren.

DreamWorks signed a multiple-year distribution contract with Disney in 2009, after splitting from Paramount.

Spielberg's hand was strengthened in Hollywood by this year's Jurassic World \$1.6 billion box office takings. A sequel is already slated for release in 2018, also starring Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard, and with Spielberg as executive producer. AFP



Spielberg executive-produced Jurassic World, third-highest grossing film in history. CONTRIBUTED

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TIFF LORDY, LORDY LOOK WHO'S 40

The Toronto International Film Festival turns 40 this year and with that milestone birthday comes 40-year-old angst.

The one-time upstart — originally snubbed by Hollywood bigwigs who deemed it a small-town affair — has become one of the industry's biggest players, and as such, an easy target for criticism from all corners.

Depending on who you talk to, it's either too big, too glitzy, or too exclusive.

Even those powerful Hollywood bigwigs were suddenly calling TIFF a bully last year, for demanding that films destined for coveted theatres and time slots premiere in Toronto.

"Americans!" festival CEO Piers Handling huffs, while recalling the brouhaha that forced TIFF to tame its stance this year.

"Which I thought was a bit ironic that they were calling us 'imperialistic' and 'bullies.' The Americans? Some of whom, by the way, were my closest friends."

Forty years ago, festival founders could only dream of such attention.

Back in 1976, when TIFF launched with the name Festival of Festivals, Hollywood studios feigned interest in the new Canadian showcase only to pull

their films at the last minute, recalls co-founder Bill Marshall.

"The studios didn't believe in film festivals, particularly not in Canada," says Marshall, noting that changed when L.A. critics lauded the inaugural outing.

"So in '77 they all came back saying, 'Oh, we'd really like to help you.' They didn't mean it, but they tried.... They gave us things they thought were dogs."

That included Lawrence Kasdan's ensemble drama *The Big Chill* in 1983, a seemingly lightweight flick with a young cast including Glenn Close, Kevin Kline and William Hurt.

"They thought that was going to be a dog and it got huge ovations here and went on to be the biggest movie of the year and win all the awards," says Marshall. "So that was the turning point."

Co-founder Henk Van der Kolk never imagined TIFF itself would grow this large. "We weren't setting out to make the world's biggest and most successful film festival," he says.

"We set out to make a festival so we could get some notice for the Canadian film industry.... And boy, did it ever happen."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Wes Craven gave the world Freddy Krueger in *A Nightmare on Elm Street*. ALL PHOTOS: HANDOUT



The Hills Have Eyes



Deadly Friend



The People Under The Stairs



Scream

The cult of Craven

WES CRAVEN

A look back at the work of the man who brought us Freddy Krueger

Chris Alexander
Metro Life

The lights have dimmed on the world of horror as fans worldwide mourn the passing of one of their heroes: Wes Craven, an icon of contemporary genre filmmaking lost his battle with brain cancer this past Sunday, leaving behind a four-decade legacy of boundary-pushing cinema.

And yet despite his bloody, often perverse resumé (the director started making hardcore pornography before turning his talents to making such still-shocking, confrontation pictures as *The Last House on the Left* and *The Hills Have Eyes*), Craven was the gentleman of the genre; a kind and sophisticated human being whose work almost always was alive

with lofty ideas, dark humour and slick style.

While some of Craven's films were more successful in defining the parameters of horror history than others, all of his work maintained some level of interest; all of his work mattered.

Metro takes a brief look at some of Craven's most memorable (and not so memorable) works.

Essential Wes

The Hills Have Eyes (1977): This brutal survivalist horror film took its cues from both *Deliverance* and *The Texas Chain-saw Massacre*, but emerged as something new: a violent, domestic tragedy by way of sun-baked Spaghetti Western. Craven's first true masterpiece.

A Nightmare on Elm Street (1984): What can be said about this landmark, oft-sequelized slasher shocker that hasn't already been said? ANOES remains a jet black, hallucinatory landmark, ground zero for Craven's deranged, razor-gloved horror anti-hero Freddy Krueger...not to mention the movie that gave us Johnny Depp. **New Nightmare (1994):** After

having his "baby" turned into a beaten down cartoon, Craven reclaimed Freddy for this mind-bending, self-referential satire that sent up the *Elm Street* series, while also serving as a genuinely affecting horror film in its own right, one whose tone laid the foundation for...

Scream (1996): Writer Kevin Williamson's snappy script became the salvation for '90s horror at the hands of Craven, whose vigorous directing zapped this "meta" slasher movie to gory, goofy and deliriously clever (almost too clever, according to some critics). After the success of *Scream*, the genre bolted back to life and never looked back.

Near-Classic Craven

The Serpent and the Rainbow (1988): Craven's stylish attempt to film Wade Davis' popular memoir of black magic and zombies in the fringes of Haiti should have been better than it was. Sophisticated and filled with terrifying imagery, the movie gets bogged down in trying to be a commercial '80s horror film and loses steam towards the finale.

The People Under the Stairs (1991): This maniacal socio-political horror comedy mind-bender is jam-packed with oddball action and palpable shocks. But its over-reliance on smartass humour works against its darker ideas and the movie falls apart at the climax.

Fascinating Failures

The Hills Have Eyes Part 2 (1985): Craven made this one on the cheap, quickly, following ANOES's success and it's a legendary misstep. In it, the survivor of the original shocker returns to the desert with his dog, only to find more cannibal mutants. Said dog famously has a ludicrous flashback, an excuse for Craven to pad the films' running time with footage from the first film.

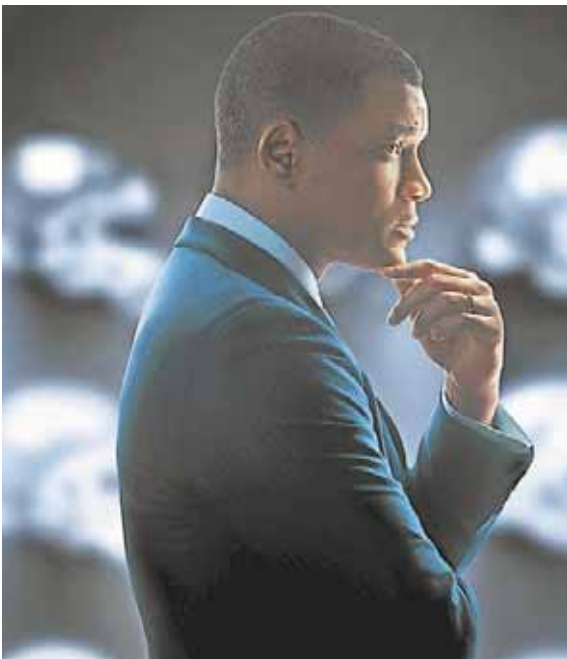
Deadly Friend (1986): A deeply strange, hilariously '80s rethinking of the Frankenstein story by way of a sort of John Hughes-ish teen romance that sees the girl next door (Kristy Swanson) rebuilt as a vengeful zombie robot. Terminally goofy but so out there that it sort of stands alone. Here's to Wes Craven. Gone...but never, ever forgotten.

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"Will is a fan of football ... Will is not anti-football (nor is the movie) and isn't planning to be a spokesman for what football should be or shouldn't be," a Sony marketing exec suggested as a PR strategy, in a leaked email. HANDOUT

Truth and backlash

HACKS

Sony emails show nuance in Concussion controversy

Leaked emails about the fact-based football drama *Concussion* paint a complicated picture of the internal dealings between Sony executives, lawyers, external consultants and filmmaker Peter Landesman in the early stages of development of the head-trauma film.

Below, are some key quotes from the emails, which were leaked in the Sony hack attack late last year. They illustrate both a concern about NFL backlash and a rigorous adherence to the truth:

In early July of 2014, Sony executive Hannah Minghella sent notes to a group of execs from a pre-greenlight meeting. "Rather than portray the NFL as one corrupt organization can we identify the individuals within the NFL who were guilty of denying/covering up the truth," read one among many.

Later that month Sony chairman Michael Lynton emailed then-co-chair Amy Pascal something he'd just been told about the film. "Aimee Wolfson took out most of the bite for legal reasons with the NFL and that it was not a balance issue," Lynton wrote of Sony's top lawyer.

Landesman and his assistant compiled a spreadsheet with "draft-by-draft (script) revisions of unflattering moments for the NFL" to discuss with Michael Lynton. The assistant wrote: "many times, of course, the line remains the same."

Another round of script notes found Sony's senior vice-president of production, Jonathan Kadin, asking: "Is the depiction of (t)he NFL/opposition as smart/strong/credible as it could be..."

Allan Mayer, the external consultant hired to manage the communications strategy with the NFL, wrote an extensive memo to Sony executives outlining possible ways to manage potential, and expected NFL backlash.

"As long as *Concussion* focuses solely on what happened ten years ago, (a League representative) said, 'they'll keep their powder dry.' On the other hand, he added, 'if anything in the movie impacts current management, all bets are off.'"

Mayer's memo continued: "As we know, *Concussion* portrays a number of current NFL executives, especially Commissioner Roger Goodell, in a less than flattering light. We should thus not be surprised if the NFL leadership, spearheaded by Goodell, decides to push back hard against *Concussion* — not simply to protect the brand but their own reputations as well."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EMAIL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN SONY AND THE NFL

On Sept. 13, director Peter Landesman forwarded an email exchange between himself and Paul Hicks, then executive vice-president of the NFL.

"You think there's a conversation for us to have in which you help us accurately portray things inside your shop regarding CTE, or the Omalu article circa 2005, and help the league by influencing the portrayal? Again - keeping it to pre current administration..."

We are making the film and I want to do right by all," wrote Landesman to Hicks.

Hicks responded: "Always room for a conversation. Not sure how much we will be able to help, but perhaps we can help make you have the facts. Do you have a recent script for us to review in advance of that conversation?"

Landesman then suggested to a group of Sony execs that now might be the time to "have a careful con-

versation with them. I don't believe there is any way for them to sanction the movie, but there's a possibility perhaps of getting compelling, cinematic — and legally defensible — drama. Those scenes inside the NFL offices we had to reconfigure — we may now be able to

"The NFL may attack the movie no matter how careful we are, but we shouldn't be careless."

Sony's Doug Belgrad, writing to a group of executives reiterating their need to fact-check.

get that, more and better.... At this point I don't see any downside to doing this.

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Evans works both sides of the camera

INTERVIEW

Evans does double duty directing and starring in film

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood



Getting an indie film made today can be tricky, but it helps if the director has a close connection to, say, one of the Avengers.

Chris Evans makes his directorial debut with *Before We Go*, an all-in-one-night tale of a panic-stricken married woman (Alice Eve) stranded in Manhattan and the down-on-his-luck musician (Evans) who tries to help her.

How long had you been looking for a project to direct, and what was it about this one that spoke to you?

I've been looking for a few years. It's tricky on your first one. I wish I could say it was just the project that absolutely captivated me, but to get a project on its feet for a



Chris Evans and Alice Eve wander the streets of Manhattan in *Before We Go*. RADIUS-TWC

guy who has never directed anything, it's not going to be so much of which project do you choose as which project chooses you, you know?

Some projects are just the little engines that could, and it's nice to kind of find something that no one else is doing and say, "OK, I'll get my feet

wet with this one."

You're not going to go get some Aaron Sorkin script your first time out.

Were you prepared for the amount of exterior New York filming this would entail?

Oh yeah, fully prepared. That's what prep is — every-

one pulling their hair out, losing sleep at night, panicking that we're going to get snowed on or rained on, cops won't have a good lock up for pedestrians or traffic.

You never know what you're going to run into in terms of the shooting schedule. But I've got to be hon-

est, it actually went fairly smoothly. You literally pray every single night for no snow — because we're shooting in December in New York — but yeah, the weather was kind.

How are we going to have a movie that's supposed to take place in one night, and from one scene to the next all of a sudden we have three feet of snow? "Man, it really came down those 10 minutes we were inside."

Have you thought already about a followup as a director?

Absolutely. I already have my next project. It's not something I can actually dive into right now, but it still is a bit of a love story — for some reason I'm all hung up on love stories — but it's a different feel, a different tone. And I'm hoping to shoot it next March.

What about those comments you made about not pursuing acting as much going forward and focusing more on directing?

Well, I certainly want to keep the ball rolling. If a good acting job comes along, I'm not

66

The trickiest thing was not being able to sit in the director's chair.

Chris Evans


going to say no to it, but my priority right now, my passion, is still going to be trying to get behind the camera and learn and grow and get better.

Are you planning to direct films you don't also star in?

Believe me, even with this first movie the trickiest thing was not being able to sit in the director's chair, but that's unfortunately part of the deal.

To be completely candid, I don't know that I would get the nod to direct a film if I weren't in it. That's part of the deal. You put yourself in it and that helps with the overseas pre-sales.

I mean, listen, if I weren't in the movie and I could somehow get three or four phenomenal actors, great. I would gladly not be in it. But putting yourself in it just makes that hurdle that much more manageable.




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ACTION The Transporter Refueled

Director: Camille Delamarre
Starring: Ed Skrein, Gabriella Wright

Frank Martin, a former special-ops mercenary, is now living a less perilous life transporting classified packages for questionable people. When Frank's father pays him a visit in the south of France, their father-son bonding weekend takes a turn for the worse.

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DRAMA We Are Your Friends

Director: Max Joseph
Starring: Zac Efron, Emily Ratajkowski

Set in the world of electronic music and Hollywood night-life, an aspiring 23-year-old DJ named Cole spends his days scheming with his childhood friends and his nights working on the one track that will set the world on fire.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 43% **Audience:** 85%



COMEDY Mistress America

Director: Noah Baumbach
Starring: Greta Gerwig, Lola Kirke

Tracy (Kirke) is a lonely college freshman in New York. But when she is taken in by her soon-to-be stepsister, Brooke (Gerwig) — an adventurous gal about town — she is rescued from her disappointment and seduced by Brooke's alluringly mad schemes.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 84% **Audience:** 88%



MYSTERY/SUSPENSE No Escape

Director: John Erick Dowdle
Starring: Owen Wilson, Pierce Brosnan

An intense international thriller, No Escape centres on an American businessman (Wilson) as he and his family settle into their new home in Southeast Asia. Suddenly finding themselves in the middle of a violent political uprising, they must frantically look for a safe escape as rebels mercilessly attack the city.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 42% **Audience:** 70%



COMEDY Mountain Men

Director: Cameron Labine
Starring: Chace Crawford, Tyler Labine

When Cooper, a big city lawyer, returns home to a small northern town for his mother's wedding, he plans to be in and out without a scratch. But his deadbeat brother, Toph, has other ideas.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: NOT YET REVIEWED **Audience:** NOT YET REVIEWED



DRAMA/COMEDY A Walk In The Woods

Director: Ken Kwapis
Starring: Robert Redford, Emma Thompson

In this new comedy adventure, celebrated travel writer, Bill Bryson, instead of retiring to enjoy his large and happy family, challenges himself to hike the Appalachian Trail — 2,200 miles of America's most unspoiled, spectacular and rugged countryside

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 49% **Audience:** 59%

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Ed Skrein believes his bone structure may be behind his getting chosen to play evil characters. HANDOUT

VILLAIN ROLES

Despite his casting, actor says he is a big teddy bear



Ned Ehrbar
For Metro

Ed Skrein swears he's a nice guy, despite appearances.

The British actor and rapper steps in for Jason Statham in *The Transporter: Refueled*, the fourth film in the fast-car franchise, and he'll soon be seen in the dark comedy *Kill Your Friends* and doing battle with Ryan Reynolds in *Deadpool* as the villain Ajax.

When you're stepping into a franchise role like this,

what sort of hesitations or trepidations go along with that?

That doesn't play into it for me. It isn't really a factor, you know? And when taking on a role like this, I have the same preparation I would have normally (while) taking on a small European independent movie with a character that's never been played by anyone else. You find the character, you find the wiring and you work out how they make decisions.

Did you watch the previous films to prepare?

I did. I'd never seen them before, and it was so important for me to watch them, to know what the fans expected and what had come previously. I think it would be ignorant of me to have not. And after that it was important for me to just move on and

focus on my own approach.

These films are so technically specific. It's fascinating, and it's why I love my job. I finished *The*



You sort of find their shoes and get comfortable in them.

Ed Skrein,
on preparing for a role

Transporter, and a week later I went onto a Danish independent movie, which I think the budget was three million euros and we had a crew of 26 people. We shot it all Dogma-style, Danish style — very little makeup, very little lighting, one camera — and it was fascinating to see

the difference in approach. For me, that's the blueprint going forward, and that's the joy of this craft, is to be able to have the yin and the yang and to balance between the two.

You're also in the darkly comic *Kill Your Friends*, which debuts at TIFF. It's an incredible book. Quintessentially dark, British humour. I would've cleaned the toilets on set, I was so excited to be a part of it. Also, it's a different role for me. A lot of the stuff that I've done has been pretty heavy, pretty dark. People tend to gravitate towards me when they want dark stuff. I can't think why. Even when I do comedy, I do it dark like *Deadpool* and *Kill Your Friends*.

If you were to speculate as to why people think of you

for these darker things ...

I think my bone structure suggests that I am a violent person (laughs). But in real life, I'm a teddy bear. I'm a pacifist in every sense. I think even when I do a neutral face I look like I'm going to stab you in the eye. Darkness is something that I enjoy exploring in cinema because I don't have darkness in my life. My life is very light and just about my family, very calm and ordinary. Maybe the cinema and this craft is my therapy. I get to kill people and beat people up and be immensely horrible and evil on camera and live my days nine to five as a sociopath, and then I go home and I've got it out of my system.

That sounds very healthy, actually.

You should try it.

AUSTRALIA

No charges for Gibson



Mel Gibson GETTY IMAGES

Police do not intend to charge Mel Gibson over an allegation that the Oscar-winning director shoved and abused a photographer who snapped pictures of him and his new girlfriend in Sydney last month.

The Daily Telegraph staff photographer Kristi Miller complained to police about the Aug. 23 altercation with Gibson, after he and Rosalind Ross were photographed leaving an Israeli Film Festival screening of Matti Caspi: Confession.

State police said in a statement "the matter was ... investigated thoroughly."

"At this stage, based on the evidence gathered, no formal action will be taken," New South Wales Police said.

Gibson's Sydney lawyer, Christopher Murphy, was informed on Thursday of the police decision not to press charges, his publicist Rogers and Cowan said.

"(Gibson) is now satisfied that the police, after speaking to witnesses and reviewing CCTV footage and other evidence, have found there is no substance to the claim," Rogers and Cowan said in a statement.

Miller told The Daily Telegraph that she had turned away from Gibson after taking his photo before he shoved her in the back.

"I thought he was going to punch me in the face," Miller said a day after the incident.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Taryn Manning and Lea DeLaria in Season 3 of *Orange is the New Black*. JOJO WHILDEN/NETFLIX

Don't box us in, OITNB creator says

ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK

Emmy rules switch hit show from comedy to drama category

The creator of *Orange Is the New Black* says though the Emmys switched the hit show from the comedy category to drama, she's not a fan of people boxing the series into a single genre.

"The whole label thing is frustrating — just people's needs to define us. OK, you know, whatever you want to call us, fine," Jenji Kohan said in an interview Wednesday. "Are we a comedy? Are we a drama? ... Are we doing good work or not? Do you like us or not? As you can hear, I have issues with the whole, you know, beauty contest thing. It's fraud."

The show, in its third season on Netflix, is nominated for outstanding drama series at the 67th Primetime Emmy Awards, which airs on Fox at 8 p.m. ET on Sept. 20, though last year it competed for outstanding comedy series.

The Television Academy announced this year that shows with episodes of 30 minutes or less are now designated a comedy, while those over a half-hour are dramas. Netflix's petition to keep the hour-long OITNB in the comedy category was denied, according to a report by Variety. Also nominated in the drama category are AMC's *Better Call Saul*, PBS' *Downton Abbey*,

HBO's *Game of Thrones*, Showtime's *Homeland*, and AMC's *Mad Men*.

"(To say, 'You're in this box and you're in that box' — we've always been hard to define; we're kind of a hybrid, and people feel this need to call us something, and I don't feel the same need to say what we are. So, that's on them," Kohan said.

This year, OITNB earned a Golden Globe nomination for best television series, musical or comedy and won outstanding performance by an ensemble in a comedy series at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

66

We've always been hard to define; we're kind of a hybrid

OITNB creator Jenji Kohan

"We're funny when we feel we need to be funny and we're dramatic when we feel we need to be dramatic 'cause hopefully we're reflecting life. And life is never just a drama, just a comedy," Kohan said. "And I don't know why you have to say it's one thing or the other."

At the Emmys OITNB is also nominated for outstanding casting for a drama series, outstanding supporting actress in a drama series for Emmy winner Uzo Aduba and outstanding guest actor in a drama series for Pablo Schreiber. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DISNEY CHANNEL LAUNCH

Zendaya-um! Teen's star on the rise

This was a big week for Zendaya. First of all, on Tuesday it was the actress/singer/dancer's 19th birthday.

And on that same day, Zendaya became the face of the Disney Channel as Corus Entertainment launched the specialty service in Canada. Fans will be able to binge on a marathon session of her tween sitcom *K.C. Undercover*.

Zendaya is on Disney's fast track to fame. In 2009, she land-

ed Disney's TV series *Shake It Up* and soon after was recording a solo album for Hollywood Records.

In 2013, she went deep on *Dancing with the Stars* and ended up the runner-up to country music star Kellie Pickler. Zendaya was just 16 at the time, the youngest DWTS celebrity contestant ever.

She's just taped a guest appearance on the second season of the ABC sitcom *Black-ish*. She'll

also be a celebrity judge (along with Canadian *Shark Tank* star Kevin O'Leary) on ABC's coverage of the 2016 Miss America Competition, which will air on Sept. 13.

Zendaya is also heading back into the studio to finish work on her second album. She cites Michael Jackson as her favourite artist — although she's also crushing on Drake. "Everyone loves Drake," she says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Zendaya
GETTY IMAGES

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Shining the spotlight on pedophile priests

VENICE FILM FESTIVAL

Film tells true story of reporters who exposed scandal

Thomas McCarthy wants Pope Francis to go to the movies.

Specifically, the American director would like the pontiff to see his new film *Spotlight*, a fact-based exposé of sexual abuse by priests and its coverup by the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Boston.

The movie, which stars Michael Keaton, Mark Ruffalo and Rachel McAdams as Boston Globe reporters and Stanley Tucci as a campaigning lawyer, premiered Thursday at the Venice Film Festival.

McCarthy said he was excited and apprehensive about holding the film's public debut in overwhelmingly Catholic Italy — though he doesn't expect to be getting rave reviews from the church.

"I expect no reaction (from the Vatican)", he said.

"I would love to be proven wrong. ... I would love the Pope to see this."

The movie dramatizes the work of the Globe's Spotlight investigative team, which won a Pulitzer Prize for exposing how the Boston archdiocese covered up child abuse by scores of priests over several decades.

Drawing on interviews with real-life journalists and abuse survivors, it's a powerful and subtle look at how evil can thrive in communities full of decent, well-meaning people. In heavily Catholic, close-knit Boston, victims' families, police officers, lawyers and journalists all knew about abuse — but few spoke out.

"It's not just the church," Ruffalo said in an interview before the premiere. "It's police and the legislative body, it's the politicians, it's the power structure of Boston. It goes so deep into the community and it's us. It's all of us."

Since the Globe published its stories in 2002, clerical abuse scandals have erupted from Iowa to Ireland — in most cases breaking decades of silence.

"A lot of it has to do with shame," Tucci said. "The church being ashamed that this is happening and they tuck the priests away. The victims being ashamed, and the families of the victims being ashamed. It



Mark Ruffalo attends the premiere of *Spotlight* on Thursday.

GETTY IMAGES

just creates this terrible world of secrets and lies."

Tucci — raised a Catholic though not a "true believer" — says it's "a huge thing" that Pope Francis has spoken out on the issue, vowing to punish abusive priests and hold church authorities to account for failing to protect children.

But McCarthy, an actor-director whose previous films include *The Station Agent*, thinks the church will change only slowly, despite Francis' good intentions.

The film shows how then-Boston archbishop Cardinal Bernard Law resigned in disgrace when the Globe revealed he had covered up for child rapists — only to be given a plum assignment at one of the Vatican's major basilicas by the late Pope John Paul II.

"You go in and take over the reins of an institution like that and sometimes the best of intentions fall short," McCarthy said. "So we'll see."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Slave Trade game edited after outrage

An educational video game has been edited following a social media backlash over a scene depicting slaves being packed into a ship.

The creators of *Playing History: Slave Trade* removed a level Monday which featured black slave characters being dropped into a ship similar to the video game *Tetris*.

"Apologies to people who were offended by us using game mechanics to underline the point of how inhumane slavery was," read a statement posted on the game's page on Steam, an online store. "The goal was to enlighten and educate people — not to get sidetracked discussing a small 15-second part of the game."

The scene was also removed from the official trailer for the title, which was originally released by Copenhagen-based developer Serious Games Interactive in 2013.

The game captured attention last week when it went on sale on Steam and was promptly chastised on social media for

trivializing slavery with the stacking segment. Serious Games founder Simon Egenfeldt-Nielsen took to Twitter to defend *Slave Trade* against the controversy before deleting his account Tuesday. He could not be immediately reached for comment.

Slave Trade, which is intended to teach children ages 11 to 14 about slavery in the 18th century, casts players for most of the game as a young slave steward named Putij, who serves on a ship crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

While the *Tetris*-like slave-stacking level has been excised from the game, a talking mouse character who guides players still says at one point: "Slave traders didn't look upon slaves as people but as a product. They therefore stacked the slaves on top of each other to get as many as possible shipped."

Other titles in the Serious Games' *Playing History* series include *Playing History: Vikings* and *Playing History: The Plague*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A video game called *Slave Trade* has come under fire for a level where players stack slaves in a ship. YOUTUBE SCREENGRAB

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Maddie & Tae take back the charts

COUNTRY

Songwriters fashioning hits by speaking their minds

The country duo Maddie & Tae took on gender stereotypes in their first platinum single, *Girl in a Country Song*, and now they are targeting another overused effect in today's country music: electronic drum machines.

"Fake drums," said Maddie Marlow, clenching her fists in mock anger. "I hate the fake drums. Those need to go away!"

Country music's young provocateurs came out swinging last summer with their on-point criticism of lyrics that portrayed women as simply objects of desire in cutoff jean shorts and bikini tops. Now that they've got everyone's attention, Marlow, 20, and Taylor "Tae" Dye, 19, have got much more to say on their debut album, *Start Here*, out today.

The two songwriters from Texas and Oklahoma met at age 15 and found inspiration in the other female artists known for



Tae Dye, left, and Maddie Marlow, right, are the first female duo to have a Top 10 country song since 2007. GETTY IMAGES

starting trouble in country music, the Dixie Chicks. But they never expected *Girl in a Country Song* to ever get played on radio, much less make them the first female duo to have a Top 10 country song since 2007.

They wanted to follow up with a song that would be just as powerful, but also a true rep-

resentation of their harmony-laden melodies and original lyrics.

"We were just trying to be machines to put out something that would live up to the first single," Dye said. "And then finally we were like, 'Let's stop lying to ourselves and put something out that we believe in.' It doesn't

matter if it's fast or slow."

Fly, an acoustic guitar-driven song about spreading your wings through adversity, is currently No. 14 on Billboard's Hot Country songs chart.

"Of course there's pressure ... if you don't have this slamming up-tempo (song) that has a little rap thing in it, then it's not go-

ing to make it on country radio," Marlow said. "We are saying something and we're not backing down. This is the message. This is what we want to say."

Country star Dierks Bentley first heard of the duo on *Girl in a Country Song*, but it was their live show that convinced him to give them an opening

66

We are saying something and we're not backing down. This is the message.

Maddie Marlow, of country music duo Maddie & Tae

slot on his Sounds of Summer tour along with Kip Moore and Canaan Smith.

"There aren't too many female duos out there like Maddie & Tae, so I think they are really refreshing and intriguing for my audience," Bentley said via email.

Their debut album has plenty of witty moments, like their biting sendup of a mean girl on *Sierra*, and a warning to an ex to stay away on *Your Side of Town*. But they also amp up the emotion with their layered vocals on *After the Storm Blows Through*.

While their youthful exuberance comes across as raw and unfiltered, their passion for the music is clear.

"Every song means something," Marlow said. "Every song tells one of our stories, or a story together." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THUNDERBITCH

Surprise album by Howard

Brittany Howard, frontwoman of blues rock sensations Alabama Shakes, has unexpectedly put out her second album within the space of a few months — this one as part of a side project.

The new album is entitled *Thunderbitch* by a band of the same name that includes Howard and members of lesser known independent acts. The album was released late Tuesday with a minimalist promotion strategy and is streaming for free on the band's website.

Thunderbitch bears musical



Brittany Howard. HANDOUT

similarities to Alabama Shakes — with blues, soul and country influences to a driving garage rock — but tilts to the heavier side.

Alabama Shakes hails from the small town of Athens, Ala. The band is driven by the force of Howard, whose steely voice brings to mind male blues singers.

Alabama Shakes' second album, the critically acclaimed *Sound and Color*, came out in April. It debuted at number one on the U.S. chart. AFP

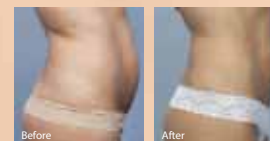


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ANNIVERSARY

Kid Rock to host Johnny Cash tribute

Musician Kid Rock will play host during a week-long tribute on CMT dedicated to Johnny Cash, according to Rolling Stone.

The tribute will coincide with the 12th anniversary of Cash's death, and will include Cash-focused programming like the film *Walk the Line*, a Throwback Thursday video series featuring music by Cash, and his ranking within CMT's All-Time

Top 40: Artist's Choice.

The final show in the week-long program will feature the CMT Hot 20 Countdown, dedicated to the musician.

CMT plans to debut the new documentary *Johnny Cash: American Rebel* that night. The Cash tribute begins Sept. 8.



AFP

SPOTIFY'S TOP SPOT

Bieber bests One Direction with What Do You Mean

Justin Bieber is marking a comeback: The singer set a new record on Spotify.

Spotify said Thursday that Bieber's *What Do You Mean* was streamed more than 21 million times in five days. The song sets

a global record, surpassing the 20 million streams that One Direction's *Drag Me Down* launched in its debut week.

AFP



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Panda 'a rock 'n' roll chick' for life

INTERVIEW

Diemonds' Priya Panda talks work ethic and genres

SOUND CHECK

Alan Cross



Priya Panda, frontperson for Toronto's five-piece Diemonds is in Calgary, heading for some Lebanese breakfast. It's one in the afternoon, but when you tour as much as this band does, circadian rhythms tend to shift.

Panda — daughter of parents who immigrated to Canada from Mumbai — isn't the kind of person many people would expect to see leading a hard rock band.

"I got my work ethic from them. My dad lived in a one-room shack with three of his brothers before he moved to Toronto with 60 dollars in his pocket and put himself through school and had four jobs while he did it. That's my life now but in a different way, because I work tons of jobs just so I can play music."

Being the female lead in a hard rock band is something she gets asked about a lot.

"Female-fronted is not a genre," she says, "but it has become one in its own little way. And there's not many of us out there. My new MO on this new album (*Never Wanna Die*, which is out now) is I want more women to be turned on to heavy and hard music where you can have a voice and a message. I don't want to throw any genres under the bus ... but they don't get to touch upon the things that I like to touch on, like things that are



"We see tons of girls at our shows — yeah, they're still dominated by guys — but every time we come out to these cities, there are more and more girls. And that's what I like to see," says Diemonds frontwoman Priya Panda. HANDOUT

going on in the world.

Panda — who has no trouble describing herself as "a rock 'n' roll chick till I die" — still runs into other women who don't appear to approve of her musical choices. "I do get flak from women. They see something they'd never do and they focus on that. It's something that needs to stop. It's crazy because women should be supporting each other."

Strong women are among

Panda's biggest influences: Wendy O. Williams from the Plasmatics, Anne Boleyn from Hellion and especially Courtney Love.

"I have hundreds of Hole bootlegs," she confesses. There's also Slayer, Slash and Avenged Sevenfold.

Is there a change coming? Is rock going to turn from the melodic sort of stuff to something harder based on loud guitars?

"I can't f—ing wait!" exclaims Panda. "Guys who play banjos and ukuleles speaking of themselves. A me-me-me approach. It's almost the exact opposite of rock. I want to go to a show be f—ing entertained! I like explosions and fire!"

Catch Diemonds on tour across Canada this fall, including a big album release party at the Hard Luck Bar in Toronto Saturday, Sept. 5.

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Dan Auerbach, centre, Richard Swift, left, and Leon Michels at Easy Eye Studio in Nashville, Tenn. Black Keys guitarist and singer Dan Auerbach brought together studio musicians with backgrounds in rock, soul, Latin and country for his new band, The Arcs. WADE PAYNE/INVISION/AP

Keys to The Arcs: new band 'killing it'

FUSION

Dan Auerbach brings diverse roster together

Black Keys singer-guitarist-producer Dan Auerbach brought together studio musicians with diverse backgrounds in rock, soul, Latin and country for his new band, The Arcs.

The result? "We are killing it all the time," Auerbach said with a laugh in a recent interview. "No B-sides, all A-sides."

All hyperbole aside, the roster includes multi-instrumentalist Richard Swift, saxophonist and producer Leon Michels, drummer Homer Steinweiss and bassist Nick Movshon, and features country guitarist Kenny Vaughan, pedal steel player Russ Pahl and the all-female Mariachi Flor de Toloache.

Their debut album to be released Friday, Yours, Dreamily, is a funky, synthesizer-heavy collection of garage rock songs as varied as the musicians involved.

The Associated Press talked with Auerbach, Swift and Michels, all longtime friends and collaborators, at Auerbach's Easy Eye Sound studio in Nashville, Tenn., one of four places where the album was recorded over a two-week period.

How did you find time for this project?

Auerbach: We all have very busy schedules and that's why the recording sched-

ules were all over the place. Because it was just as simple as whenever at least two of us had a day off and were in the same city, we would get together. So it was born out of that. It wasn't about time. We make the time because it's fun and we enjoy it.

Swift: We've all got our own studios, too, so it's just really easy to walk in and not worry about being on the clock. Not worry about conflicting schedules. Dan and



We're keeping our expectations very low and trying our hardest.

Dan Auerbach

I am on the same schedule because I played the bass in The Black Keys for the last couple of years, so that made it easier.

Auerbach: Honestly, ever since we gave it an identity and it became a real thing, it felt like everyone's excitement got a little bit more and everyone's dedication got a little bit more.

Michels: And the sound got more focused, too.

That's a lot of skilled musicians in one place. How did

it not end up becoming a big jam session?

Michels: There were like 40 songs recorded. We were just constantly making music. There was never that much pressure to record the record. We were just recording. And then like they said, it finally found a voice. But there's like 30 songs that didn't make the record.

How did you share producing duties?

Auerbach: When we're together, everyone is a producer. And everyone is equal on everything. And everyone has a voice and a real strong voice and that's what makes it interesting. Everybody does their own thing really well. We've all made records together. That's so much a part of this band, being in the studio.

What did the all-female mariachi band bring to the album?

Auerbach: It definitely added some depth to the music. ... It's a special thing that they add. And it's hard to define, which makes the music that much more difficult to define, which I think we all really like. We didn't really get into this to make a particular style. Or particular type of record. We just wanted to entertain ourselves. And pulling in more of these influences that we love just feels like the better it becomes.

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THE POWER OF LANGUAGE

What's in a word? A lot, when it comes to identity



Ryan Porter
Metro|Life

Sarah Rotella and Adrianna DiLorenzo are often asked why their popular YouTube comedy channel is called the Gay Women's Channel. Both of its creators identify as lesbian — “I also identify as a catlady,” Rotella, 28, adds.

“We like to use the term gay as a hat that includes everyone in the spectrum,” says DiLorenzo, 28. “It might not be politically correct. Gay is usually associated with gay men.”

With Pride festivities in full swing, how to refer to the community that is being celebrated depends on whom you ask. Monikers span the overly simplistic term “gay” to the mouthful acronym “LGBTTIQQ2SA” (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, intersex, queer, questioning, two-spirit, asexual/ally).

“If you're in the straight world, it would be the all-encompassing word ‘gay,’” says Helen Kennedy, executive director of LGBT advocacy group EGALÉ. But you don't have to look very far to find someone who bristles at being corralled into that catchall term. When pressed by Diane Sawyer prior to her transition, for example, Caitlyn Jenner described herself as asexual.

“I understand the ease of using just one word to sum it up, but there are lots of issues around who you are fighting for when you are saying ‘gay’ rights,” Sidney Drmay, co-ordinator of the queer and trans group RyePride at Ryerson

University, says. “Are we thinking about black trans women or are we just thinking about white gay dudes?”

Drmay, 20, identifies as queer and non-binary, using the pronouns “they, them and their” in place of “she/he, her/him, and her/his.” “I don't like the idea of girl/boy,” they says. “I prefer ‘them’ because I like being able to separate myself from the binary of gender. There are a lot of genders. Trying to insist that there are only two is ridiculous.”

As the Outreach Committee Chair for Ottawa-based

transgender group Gender Mosaic, Amanda Ryan has found it nearly impossible to come to a consensus on the trans experience. “If you put 1,000 trans people into a room and ask them to come up with a definition of trans you would come up with 1,000 different definitions,” says Ryan.

Far simpler for the 63-year-old is navigating the pronouns “he” and “she.”

“If I am presenting female, I do prefer the female pronouns,” she says. “And when I am presenting male it's he. When I am addressed

as female by the public it acknowledges that I am seen (as female) by them. It does make a difference.”

Jeremy Dutcher, 24, might swap his “he” pronouns for more gender-neutral pronouns when working in his capacity as the Aboriginal Projects Co-ordinator at EGALÉ. Dutcher identifies as two-spirit, an indigenous concept for someone with two souls — one male, one female.

Originally celebrated for their spiritual significance within indigenous tribes, today the term is applied broadly to indigenous people who

identify as LGBTQ.

While ‘2S,’ for two-spirit, is included in the larger acronym, Dutcher prefers the acronym LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer). But when EGALÉ was doing work surrounding youth homelessness, Dutcher advocated for the acronym LG-BTQ2S to acknowledge the disproportionately high number of two-spirit youth living on the street.

Yet using the full acronym — LGBTTIQQ2SA — can prompt a teachable moment. Drmay often uses it in their work with RyePride. “It's also

a really great learning opportunity because people might be like, I don't recognize that letter,” they say. “What is that letter for?”

And while LGBTTIQQ2SA doesn't exactly roll off the tongue, the conversation alone has the power to raise awareness about gender and sexual identity. “Language is powerful,” Dutcher says. “LGBT folks have been pushing those boundaries around, ‘what is inclusion?’ The fact that we really make space for people to identify how they want to identify I think is awesome.”

defining Pride

[prahyd] An epic string of LGBTQ community rallies that celebrate you doing you!

7 VIEWS ON THAT REALLY, REALLY LONG ACRONYM

What part of LGBTTIQQ2SA don't you understand? Can we really make the acronym — it stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersex, queer, questioning, two spirit, asexual/ally — work? Community leaders share their thoughts.



“I think it's really important to identify as many of the identities as you can within the acronym because I think every identity needs to be recognized.”

HELEN KENNEDY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR EGALÉ



“It's confusing. We waste a lot of time arguing over definitions. What can we do to work together?”

AMANDA RYAN, OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR GENDER MOSAIC



“If our straight allies are having trouble with LGBT, it's probably pushing it a bit to add on further. Intention is what matters and how we act is what matters.”

STEVEN PETROW, WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST

GLOSSARY

LGBTQ need-to-know terms during Pride Week

Metro asked Ryan Porter, a freelance writer and former editor of the now defunct Toronto-based Fab magazine, to define some common LGBT slang to help you navigate the otters and puppies and bears (oh my!) during your local Pride festivities.

BEAR: [bair] A hirsute gay man of notable heft, often found in plaid, denim or Montana's

BREEDER: [bree-der] A heterosexual celebrated for their baby-making skills

BUTCH: [boo-ch] A lesbian of masculine demeanour or advanced home-reno skill

CHASER: [chey-ser] One attracted to bears who is not themselves a bear, but will happily eat all of their porridge and pass out (we're looking at you, Goldilocks)

CISGENDER: [sis-jen-der] A person whose gender corresponds to the sex organs they were born with (but we love them, anyway)

CRUISE: [krooz] To prowl for intimate relations in a manner that may be considered filthy, scandalous and abhorrent by well-bred individuals (Prince Harry excluded)

CUB: [kuhb] The iPad Mini to the bear's iPad — younger, smaller and more affordable

DADDY: [dad-ee] An older man

in a relationship who provides mentorship and all-around parental-style bossiness to the younger man, who may be called the "boy"

DRAG MOTHER: [drag muhth-er] The drag queen who mentors a young protégé in the illusory arts

F-TO-M/M-TO-F: [ef-too-em/em-too-ef] If you were to describe a trans person's journey from one gender to another using a maximum of five letters, these would be those five

FEMME: [fem] A queer person dripping in stereotypically feminine characteristics, dahlings

KIKI: [kee-kee] A small congregation of gay people assembling for the purpose of chit-chat, juicy disclosures and general shenanigans

LIPSTICK LESBIAN: [lip-stik lez-bee-uh n] A lady who loves her Maybelline almost as much as she loves boobs

MUSCLE MARY: [muhs-uh l mair-ee] A hulking gay man who looks terrifying but actually has the complete works of Britney Spears memorized

OTTER: [ot-er] A hairy gay man too slender to be considered a bear and the generally agreed upon limit of really pushing this animal thing

PASS: [pas] to be recognized as the gender you are presenting

because is that really so much to ask for?

POCKET GAY: [pok-it gay] A gay man of diminutive stature who is nonetheless desirable the way King Kong really thought it would work out with Naomi Watts

POWER BOTTOM: [pou-er bot-uh m] A receiving sexual partner who should really see someone about their control issues

POZ: [paws] A person who is living (or — just maybe — thriving) with HIV

PUPPY PLAY: [puhp-ee pley] When two people role-play as a puppy dog and its master, except for some reason, they are both wearing, like, a lot of leather

QUEENING OUT: [kwee-ning out] an outlandish display of royally diva-esque behaviour by a gentleman that may inspire Wayne's World-style bowing down

READ: [reed] A sassy dressing down using choice witty zingers, as in, "she read that queen like it was another excellent edition of the Metro"

STR8: [strāt] An alternate spelling of straight, generally used by gay men in personal ads who would love to spell out the "aight" but are just far too horny

SHADE: [sheyd] A side-eyed style of cutting remark developed by New York drag queens possessed by the ghost of Joan Crawford

QUEER

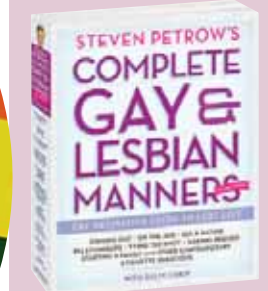
STR8

LESBIAN

BEAR

BUTCH

+ PRIDE PROTOCOL



In his Washington Post column *Civilities*, Steven Petrow offers his advice on LGBT etiquette. Here the author of the book *Complete Gay & Lesbian Manners* answers our burning questions about proper forms of address during Pride.

Is it okay to say "Gay Pride"?
The most inclusive terminology is to say "the LGBT community."

When we use the word gay, for some people lesbians are included, for some they are not, and using the word gay alone definitely does not include transsexual and transgendered people.

What do I call the people in a same-sex couple?

The most important thing is to not downgrade anyone in a relationship. Partner is better than boyfriend if they are in a committed relationship and if they are married, husband or wife is preferred.

How do I ask someone what their orientation is?

Why would someone have a need to ask another what their sexual orientation is unless they are planning to go to bed with them?

Well-meaning questions are fair to ask but people should always ask themselves first, "Why am I interested in this? Is there anything beyond curiosity?" If the answer is no, put a lid on it.

RYAN PORTER/FOR METRO



"It's a mouthful, is it not? Personally, I don't believe it is useful. I use the short form LGBTQ because I could never ever remember all the letters."

STEPHEN HARTLEY, PFLAG CANADA PRESIDENT



"It still starts with LGBT. The further down you go, the letters get ignored."

SARAH ROTELLA, CO-HOST OF YOUTUBE'S GAY WOMEN'S CHANNEL



"Are we doing a disservice if we don't represent every letter? Perhaps. That's where the beauty of LGBTQ (for queer) comes in, because the Q opens up a lot of space for non-normative experiences."

JEREMY DUTCHER, ABORIGINAL PROJECTS CO-ORDINATOR FOR EGale



"It's the term that a lot of people will recognize. (By saying) the queer community, they might think you are only talking about gay dudes and gay women."

SIDNEY DRMAY, CO-ORDINATOR AT RYEPRIDE

Follow the rainbow

25 YEARS LATER

City's Pride Parade has seen many changes over last quarter-century

Krista Sylvester
For Metro

What once began as a small rally where some participants had to hide their identities has since blossomed into a city-wide affair 25 years later.

When the first gay pride rally popped up in Calgary in 1990, Sinead O'Connor was at the top of the music charts, minimum wage was just \$5.85 per hour, and participants at a gay pride rally had to wear paper bags on their heads to hide their identity for fear of repercussions.

A lot has changed since then, says Tansy Wong, Pride Calgary director of communications. She said that protest rally has shifted into a celebration full of rainbow flags

THE DETAILS

Sunday's Pride Parade on 9th Ave. goes from noon to 2 p.m., with Pride Fest from noon until 8 p.m. at Shaw Millennium Park. On the night of the parade, some downtown locations will be lit in rainbow colours, including Stephen Avenue, River Walk, Langevin Bridge and the Calgary Tower. For more about Pride events, visit pridecalgary.ca.

and smiles instead of paper bags and fears.

"There has been a growth in diversity in Calgary and a major shift in people's attitudes. With that, more and more



Sunday's Pride Parade is expected to attract more than 60,000 people. PRIDE CALGARY PLANNING COMMITTEE PHOTO

people are supporting Pride and becoming interested in getting involved, whether it's being in the parade, sponsorship, events or volunteering."

The festival has continued to grow since 1990, and has gone from 5,000 attendees to the pride parade five years ago to what is expected to be 60,000 this year. Because of

massive growth for the parade, the location has switched from Stephen Avenue to 9th Avenue, where the city already has the proper infrastructure in place.

"We have over 120 parade entries this year, and Stephen Avenue was regrettably no longer a safe or practical option for the event, so it only

makes sense for us to move there as it can accommodate our ever-growing parade for years to come."

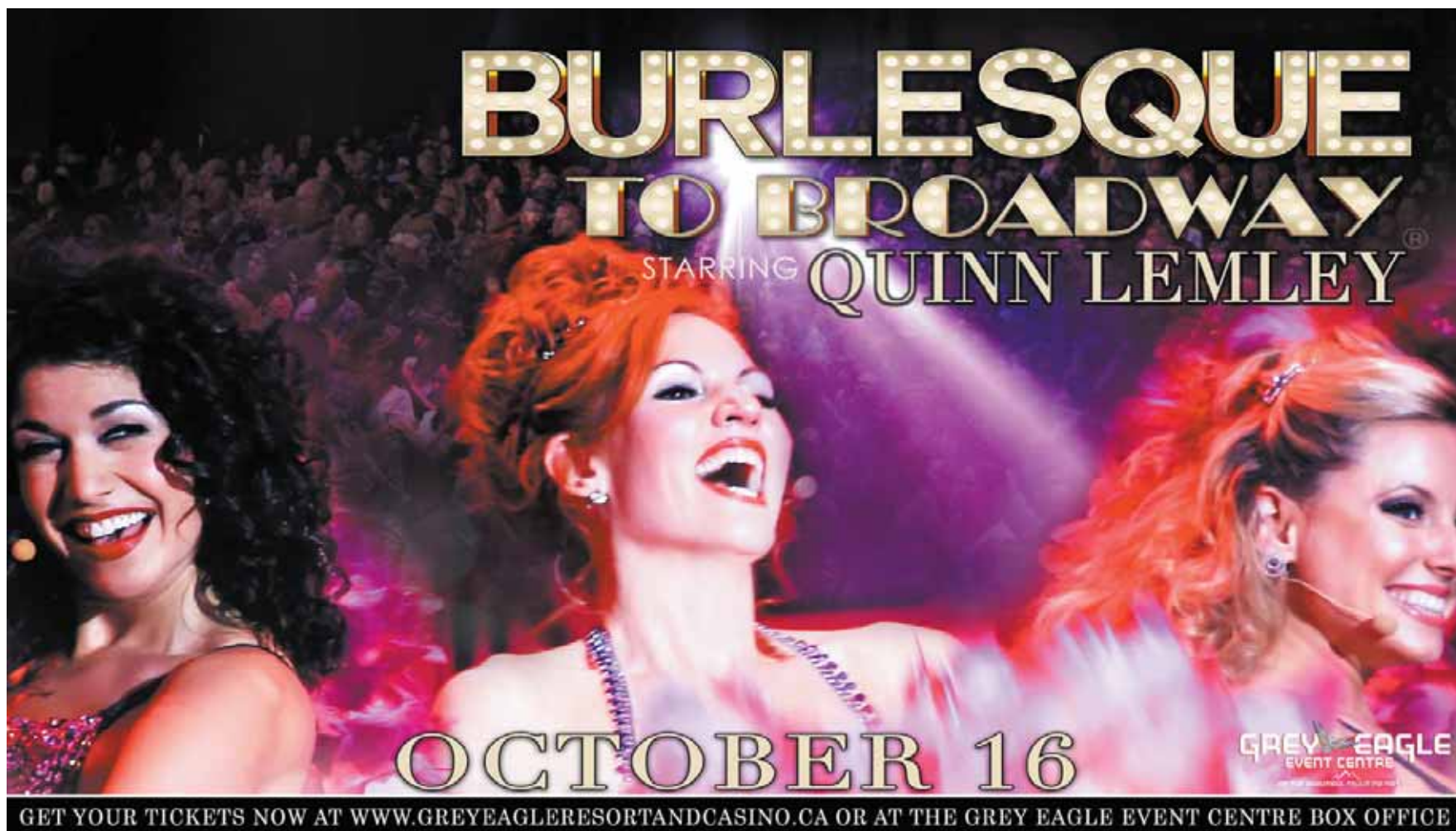
That's not all that's new this year. Calgary's first rainbow crosswalk was unveiled last month to some controversy, but not as much as there would have been even five years ago, Wong said.

"It's amazing to have a rainbow crosswalk in Calgary to show how diverse and inclusive the city has become. We have gotten a lot of positive feedback about the crosswalk, and many love it, with some asking for it to become permanent fixture all year round. The smiles of people walking across it for the first time say it all."

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Celebrating 10 years of same-sex marriage

Danelle Cloutier
For Metro

July marked the 10th anniversary of Canada's countrywide legalization of same-sex marriage.

For Wallace Wong, a psychologist in Surrey, B.C., the law could not have come sooner.

"I was thinking, I hope before I die I can get married," he said.

His first partner died before same-sex marriage was legal. Because there were no protection laws in place for same-sex couples at the time, Wong lost their home and couldn't see his partner when he died.

"Twenty years later, I still don't know where he's buried."

Now married to Steven Paull, the legalization allowed Wong to fulfil his dream.

"That was the best news," he said.

In 2005, the Civil Marriage Act provided a gender-neutral definition of marriage and legalized marriage in Alberta, P.E.I., Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Before the countrywide law, same-sex marriage laws were left up to each province and territory.

Michael Leshner and Michael Stark were the first same-sex couple to receive a civil marriage



Kristin, left, and Gail Walker exchange their vows on their wedding day. CONTRIBUTED

licence after it was legalized in Ontario, a month before it was legalized in B.C.

"It was an extremely exhilarating moment," Stark said about

Ontario's law. "When I first came out in 1980, I just never thought I'd witness this in my time."

Though Ontario's progress was monumental for the couple,

it didn't make sense to Stark that, in 2003, the law wasn't countrywide.

"You shouldn't have people in Ontario feeling like they have

more opportunities or rights," he said.

Once the federal law passed, Stark said it solidified LGBT rights. "It meant that the vic-

tory that we had here in Ontario became much more permanent."

The victory didn't come easy though.

Everett Klippert is considered the last person in Canada to be arrested, charged, prosecuted, convicted and imprisoned for being gay. That's just the start of a long history of oppression. After the 1965 Klippert case, LGBT rights started to unravel.

"Marriage is kind of like the cherry on top of the sundae, it kind of completed the picture," Stark said.

"From a legal point of view, we were on equal footing with the rest of society and that's something to be very proud of."

The same can't be said for other countries though.

On a recent trip to Sydney, Australia, Manitoba couple Kristin and Gail Walker, who married in 2007, witnessed the fight for rights all over again.

"It was pretty humbling to be back in an environment where there's petitions, protests and a huge emphasis on changing the government's mind," Kristin said. "We don't take it for granted and we appreciate what we have."

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Transforming lunches from dull to fun

Sandwiches don't have to be boring. Sure, some kids like the routine of digging into a cheese, pickle and mayo sandwich every single day of the week for all of Grade 4, but many others like to shake it up.

There are wraps in lettuce pitas and tortillas. There is soup, nutritious smoothies or last night's chicken masala in a thermos. And there is reinventing those old TV dinner trays into Japanese bento boxes. There is something fun about eating different types of food from their own different little sections.

There is much to try beyond the confine of the same old sandwich. Try cutting the sandwich into different shapes. Stripes for Monday, squares on Thursday.

And on Friday, why not cut up a tortilla into skinny strips to arrange as a checkerboard with the different squares

filled with different food — cut up zucchini, carrots, celery, little whole wheat crackers and colourful peppers cut in half and filled with salsa, guacamole or yogurt dip.

But you don't have to come up with new inventive ideas for your children's lunch all by yourself. Get the kids involved. Ask them what their friends bring for lunch that they would like to try. Get them to help plan the grocery

list and get them into the kitchen to assemble their own lunches.

You definitely don't have to wait until school day mornings to think about what to put in a delicious and nutritious lunch. You can get a head start over the weekend by planning what to prepare for the week.

"Stock up on healthy grab-and-go foods like fruit, vegetables, whole-grain pita pockets, yogurt, and hard-boiled eggs," experts write on the Healthy Canadian website. "Kids who eat a healthy lunch are ready to learn. While hectic family schedules can be a challenge to

manage, taking the stress out of making school lunches is as easy as getting the kids involved and planning ahead."

However, your peanut butter-loving child will have to leave that for an after-school snack. Most schools have a nut-free policy in the lunch room to protect the growing number of students who have severe allergies to nuts. But there are plenty of other ways to pack protein into your child's lunch, from black beans to sliced turkey.

If you look around in any lunch room at any school, you will see kids tucking into the typical fare of a sandwich,

maybe a little container of yogurt or apple-sauce, a slice or two of cheese, an apple or orange slices followed by (or started with) a granola bar or cookie. And that could very well be your kid's lunch on Tuesday. But on Friday, your child could be enjoying a chicken and apple lettuce wrap with blueberry-chocolate smoothie and a fruit cup.



When fresh and interesting meets tried and true

Nothing arouses equal measures of dread and joy in both children and parents than the school lunch.

This time of year, as the air turns crisp and the leaves on the trees begin to turn from green to yellow, people in homes across the province are preparing for seemingly endless weeks of making nutritious lunches that kids will want to eat.

It doesn't have to be that daunting. Let's consider the different factors: One, you want the lunches to be healthy. Two, you want your kids to actually consume the food they take to school for lunch and not throw it out or trade it for cookies. And three, you should consider what your children's friends are bringing for lunch, also known as "the envy factor."

"School lunches can be a bit of a balancing act," says John Humphreys, the father of two small children in Calgary. "In Grade 2 going on Grade 3, there's already peer pressure to get the same prepacked pizza snacks for lunch that other kids get."

The kids bring that pressure home to their

parents, but Humphreys doesn't cave.

"As a chef, that's just not happening," he says of sending prepackaged lunches with his kids to school. "So I have to counter that with a different type of cool factor. Purple carrots, zebra tomatoes, golden raspberries; they're all things my daughter can 'show off' a bit and they add interest to the routine of a sandwich and a yogurt cup."

If you ask young adults who still remember those years of carting sandwiches to school in their lunch kits, they will tell you that Monday lunches made of Sunday night leftovers were often the best lunches of the week.

"Leftovers were always my favourite," says Lisa Boutcher, a 20-year-old university student. "You would have everything layered on top of each other in the container and have this special casserole for lunch."

Another university student recalls being embarrassed as a little kid when she would bring out a perfectly nutritious and delicious boiled egg in the lunch room at elementary school.

"I liked to eat them because they tasted good and filled you up," Kelly McGregor says. "But they were a little smelly and sometimes my friends would make fun of me."

Getting that school lunch just right can be hit and miss. But if you keep at it, you and your kids will discover the perfect assortment of food to get them through the day.

"I try to fill each lunch with said sandwich plus a fruit, a raw veg, and a small sweet like a granola bar or sometimes a pudding cup," Humphreys says. "In the colder months, hearty soups

and even pastas go into a thermos."

Soups, sandwiches, wraps, leftovers, fruit, vegetables and dip, there are enough healthy ingredients in the grocery aisle to find the right balance of "fresh and interesting" and "tried and true" to send with your kids to school this year.





Cape Breton's new headliner



Cabot Cliffs sweeps along oceanside bluffs just to the north of Inverness. PHOTOS COURTESY CABOT LINKS

NOVA SCOTIA

Cabot Cliffs adds to island's world-famous golf reputation

Brian Kendall
canadiangolftraveller.com



Cape Breton has always punched above its weight among Canadian golf destinations. But the early rave reviews for Cabot Cliffs, the island's wildly anticipated new course, seems almost an excess of good fortune.

Set on soaring oceanside bluffs just outside the town of Inverness, Cabot Cliffs is the

sister course of Cabot Links, a world-renowned seaside links that instantly became a flagship for the Canadian golf industry when it launched in 2011.

But Cabot Cliffs might be even more spectacular. No fewer than eight holes offer endless views of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Especially unforgettable is the 16th, a par three chiselled into a jagged cliff. The inland holes sweep through sculpted dunes and woodlands before returning to the sea.

Designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, golf's hottest design team, Cabot Cliffs is already being compared to Pebble Beach, Cypress Point and several more of the world's most dramatically beautiful courses.

Cape Breton, a Nova Sco-



Golf has become as essential to the fabric of life in Inverness as it is in Scotland's St. Andrews.

tia island of charming villages and panoramic vistas along the Cabot Trail, has long ranked among Canada's top golf destinations. Located in the quiet north shore community of Ingonish is Highlands Links, a Stanley Thompson-designed masterpiece that has anchored Maritimes golf since 1941. Rounding out a strong roster are Bell Bay Golf Club, The Lakes Golf Club and



Cliff-top drama: the signature par-three 16th at Cabot Cliffs.

Le Portage Golf Club.

Golf has become the lifeblood of local tourism. Before the opening of Cabot Links and the quietly elegant Cabot Links Lodge, Inverness was a hardscrabble former coal mining town where the big attractions were salmon fish-

ing on the Margaree River and the twice-weekly harness races at Inverness Raceway. Townspeople also boast that their beach offers the warmest ocean waters north of the Carolinas.

Today, stylish new houses are under construction, real-

estate prices are climbing, and the tired-looking main street is being given a facelift.

With tourists arriving from around the world, golf has become as essential to the fabric of life in Inverness as it is in Scotland's St. Andrews.

The original course, Cabot Links, is set just beyond the beach in the heart of town. Glimpses of the green and rumpled links are visible from almost everywhere in Inverness. A long public boardwalk extends between the beach and the fairways closest to the sea, enabling strollers to feel a part of the action.

And now, just to the north of town, Cabot Cliffs is welcoming golfers for preview rounds before its official launch next spring.

How lucky can Cape Breton get?

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Accommodations with a side of art

MORE THAN HOTELS

Where to find unique stays among murals, ice sculptures



ON THE MOVE

Loren Christie

If you are a culture vulture who prefers hotels that offer more than just bed and breakfast, consider staying at one of the following purveyors of the arts.

Cosy, with cocktails

With only 19 guest rooms, Toronto's Drake Hotel still manages to be the west end's epicentre of cool. From the hotel's inception, the promotion and sharing of art was always part of the guest experience.

There are site-specific installations throughout the hotel from conceptual installations to murals to kinetic sculptures. The collection is grounded in contemporary Canadian art with works by notable artists such as

Ken Lum, Isabelle Hayeur and Evan Penny. The cocktail list is pretty memorable, too!

Aboriginal art

Opened in the fall of 2014, the 18-room boutique Skwachàys Lodge in Vancouver is perfect for people interested in British Columbia's aboriginal art scene. Six of the city's top hotel designers worked with six First Nations artists to create 18 unique art installations, one for each guest room. The hotel also features an artists' workshop, traditional smudge room and sweat lodge and is crowned by a rooftop totem pole that reaches high above the city skyline.

Owned by the Vancouver Native Housing Society, 100 per cent of the hotel's profits go toward providing safe and affordable housing for Vancouver's urban aboriginal population.

Keeping cool

The Hôtel de Glace outside of Quebec City is the only ice hotel in North America and, despite lacking some creature comforts (only a pillow and medium-sized mattress in the rooms), is a breathtaking work of art. Built over a six-week period and

open only during the winter months, the hotel is redesigned every year by a combination of tradesmen and skilled artisans.

This past year's theme of space and time was represented in frozen sculptures of everything from a Japanese tea ceremony to the lunar landing, carved into the walls of the hotel. This year's theme will be announced in December.

Contemporary in N.Z.

If you are travelling internationally, a personal favourite of mine is the Museum Art Hotel in Wellington, New Zealand.

This 165-room European-inspired boutique hotel is perfectly situated in the city centre, opposite the city's stunning harbour and Te Papa, New Zealand's national museum.

Although one could endlessly people-watch the city's hipsters and trendsetters who frequent the hotel's Hippopotamus restaurant and bar, I could not take my eyes off the art.

Owner Chris Parkin showcases more than 100 ceramics, paintings and other contemporary pieces, like a limited-edition MV Agusta motorcycle, throughout the hotel.



The Skwachàys Lodge in Vancouver. COURTESY TOURISM VANCOUVER



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TRAVEL NOTES
Sunspot expansion

Antigua and Barbuda recently doubled the capacity of its V.C. Bird International Airport with a new terminal, one of the most modern in the Caribbean. The \$130-million-plus green-energy building will offer more of everything, including expedited access to the twin-island nation's 365 beaches, three VIP lounges and a pet restroom. Go to VisitAntiguaBarbuda.com.



Jabberwock Beach, Antigua and Barbuda.
CONTRIBUTED

Travel trend

Frequent flyers beware: A recent study says business travel may be harder on you than you think. Your glam job jetting around is costing you physically (jet lag and fatigue, airplane food, radiation), emotionally (missing your family/spouse), psychologically (you may be addicted to "hypermobility") and socially (friends never know when you're around, so they don't call).



Is your jet-setting job making you miserable?
PEXELS.COM

North Korea marathon

Intrepid Travel added North Korea to its roster last week, launching a Pyongyang Marathon Expedition set for next April. Travellers participate in the city's full- or half-marathon, or 10-km run, followed by a week of guided tours of landmarks such as the demilitarized zone, Mount Myohyang and the city of Pyongyang. From \$3,130. Visit IntrepidTravel.com. DOUG WALLACE



More than 650 internationals ran in the Pyongyang Marathon last year. CONTRIBUTED



Fans in Frankfurt wave flags, bang drums and hold sparklers aloft during a pre-game ceremony that is as epic as a Wagnerian opera. MARK STACHIEW/FOR METRO

NOT A TOURIST |

A letter from Mark Stachiew in Germany

Hockey night in Frankfurt



Do you want to meet local people when you travel? Here's a tip: Attend a sporting event. You'll sit with thousands of them and the ones seated next to you are happy to talk, especially if you're rooting for the home team.

I've seen NHL games in several North American cities and met plenty of local fans, but few of them could top the enthusiasm I saw at a hockey game in Frankfurt. Yes, that Frankfurt, the one in Germany.

While soccer is king in

Germany, the country has a professional hockey league known as the Deutsche Eishockey Liga. While the calibre of play in the DEL may not be up to NHL levels, it is plenty competitive and highly entertaining.

In Frankfurt, the fans cheer for the Löwen, or Lions, a team that plays at the Eissporthalle Frankfurt in the second tier of the DEL. There wasn't a moment during

the game when fans weren't waving flags, clapping, banging drums and chanting songs. They only paused between periods in order to soothe their hoarse throats with generous portions of German beer while eating fistfuls of sausages and pretzels.

In many ways, it seemed that a horde of rabid soccer fans had been transported to a hockey rink, superimposing their rituals

on a hockey game. Most wore the black, white and orange colours of the home team, but many sported NHL sweaters of various vintages or those of other European teams.

The opposition that night was the Dresdner Eislöwen. It was a back-and-forth affair that the visitors won 6-4, but even if the hometown fans didn't go home happy, I did because I knew that the sport Canadians love is in good hands in Germany.

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MVP chants grow louder

MLB

Donaldson leads AL in RBIs, runs, slugging pct.

When Josh Donaldson steps to the plate at Rogers Centre and the strains of Phil Collins' 'In the Air Tonight' fade out, the crowd noise fills in with chants of "M-V-P! M-V-P!"

Sometimes it's just a few hundred fans, until the star Blue Jays slugger hits a home run and some 40,000 more join the call.

"I try not to listen to it too much, but it's nice," Donaldson said. "Obviously all year the fans have really supported me. So far this year it's kind of worked out, and we'll see how it goes."

To say it has "worked out" is the understatement of the year from the third baseman, a front-runner to be the American League's Most Valuable Player. Donaldson leads the league with a .589 slugging percentage, 111 runs batted in,

Fans have firmly gotten behind the first-year Blue Jay.

TONY GUTIERREZ/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



.385

In 149 plate appearances with runners in scoring position, Donaldson is hitting .385 to Trout's .347.

304 total bases and 104 runs scored.

He has passed and even lapped defending champion Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels by being at the forefront of the Blue Jays' surge into first place.

"I don't think we're anywhere close to where we're at without him," starting pitcher Mark Buehrle said. "If he doesn't win, I'd be disappointed."

Donaldson would be the first player in 31 years to win AL MVP honours after being traded prior to Opening Day. Toronto general manager Alex Anthopoulos pulled off the steal of the off-season by acquiring Donaldson from the Oakland Athletics for oft-injured third baseman Brett Lawrie.

The 29-year-old hit 29 home runs last season and 24 in 2013. Coming off an all-star appearance, expectations were that Donaldson



Josh Donaldson is batting a career-best .304 with 36 home runs with 29 games left.

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

would be an upgrade, but few could have predicted this.

"Two years in Oakland he had good years, but not this good," Buehrle said. "If somebody says they thought he was going to have this good of a year, I think they're crazy."

Donaldson, who hits second ahead of power righties Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion

in baseball's most feared and productive lineup, is batting a career-best .304 and already has 36 home runs with 29 games left.

Using the wins above replacement stat, which calculates value to a team if replaced by a bench player or minor-leaguer, Donaldson's 7.64 trails only Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Zack

Greinke and Washington Nationals outfielder Bryce Harper.

"He's having a career year," Toronto starter Marco Estrada said. "What he brings on the field is everything. He's been our best hitter, his defence is incredible and he brings a lot of energy to the clubhouse. I'm glad he's on our side."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Zimmerman leaves Braves with splinters

Ryan Zimmerman continued his torrid stretch with three hits and four RBIs. Jordan Zimmermann pitched six solid innings and the Washington Nationals opened a seven-game homestand with a 15-1 rout of the Atlanta Braves on Thursday night.

Washington moved within six games of the first-place New York Mets, who were off Thursday, in the NL East.

The Braves have lost nine straight and 16 of 17.

Over his last 11 games, Zimmerman, who was 3-for-3 on Thursday, is 17-for-42 (.405) with seven homers and 23 RBIs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twins end homestand with win over White Sox

J.B. Shuck's two-run, pinch-hit triple in the seventh inning sent the Chicago White Sox over Minnesota 6-4 Thursday, the Twins' last home game before beginning a key road trip.

Eddie Rosario hit a grand slam for the Twins, who fell 1-1/2 games behind idle Texas for the second AL wild-card spot. Minnesota now starts a nine-game swing to division leaders Houston and Kansas City and wraps up at the White Sox.

Shuck's liner off reliever Casey Fien made it 5-4 and helped Chicago win for just the second time in 10 games at Target Field this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Lions Beck with a bang in Montreal

CFL

Backup QB steps in for Lulay, throws two TD passes

John Beck came off the bench in relief of injured Travis Lulay to throw touchdown passes to Lavelle Hawkins and Austin Collie as the B.C. Lions downed

THURSDAY In Montreal

25 **16**
LIONS ALOUETTES

the Montreal Alouettes 25-16 on Thursday night.

Eric Fraser scored on an interception return and Richie Leone had a field goal and a single on a missed 50-yard at-

tempt for the Lions (4-5), who were coming off a 23-13 loss to Montreal two weeks ago in Vancouver.

Jonathan Hefney returned an interception for a TD and Boris Bede had three field goals for Montreal (4-6). Lulay went off with a left knee injury midway through the first quarter.

The Lions picked up 51 yards on two Montreal penalties on the same play to put the ball on the 11, where Beck found Col-

lie with the TD pass for a 17-6 half time lead. Fraser grabbed a Marsh pass and romped 56 yards for the score 4:19 into the second half. Ryan Phillips picked off another pass on Montreal's next drive but the Lions couldn't make it count.

Then, Hefney had an easy 20-yard trot into the end zone after picking off a Beck pass at 9:51 and Bede added a field goal early in the fourth quarter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



B.C. Lions' Lavelle Hawkins scores a first-half touchdown in Montreal on Thursday. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Andy Murray lunges to return a shot to Adrian Panarino on Thursday in New York. CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. OPEN

Murray survives second-round scare

Before they stepped on court, there was nothing to suggest Andy Murray would have any trouble against Adrian Panarino in the U.S. Open's second round.

Murray, after all, is seeded No. 3, owns two major championships including one at Flushing Meadows in 2012, and had reached at least the quarter-finals at the last 18 Grand Slam tournaments he'd entered. Mannarino, meanwhile, is ranked 35th, has never won a tour-level title, and only three times in his career has even managed to win more than one match at a major.

So it certainly came as a surprise when, in Thursday's very

first game in Arthur Ashe Stadium, Mannarino broke Murray. About an hour later, Mannarino slammed an overhead winner to grab the first set. And 45 minutes after that, a serve-and-volley winner gave the Frenchman the second set, too.

Murray is nothing if not resilient, though. Despite looking as if he might be ready to wilt on another steamy day at Flushing Meadows, Murray put together his eighth career comeback from a two-set deficit and beat Mannarino 5-7, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1.

It gave Murray his 35th consecutive victory in a second-round Grand Slam match.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Stauskas' skills help Canada defeat Venezuela

Nik Stauskas had a team-high 16 points as Canada earned its second straight victory at the FIBA Americas men's basketball championship, downing Venezuela 82-62 on Thursday.

All five of Canada's starters finished in double digits. Kelly Olynyk dropped 14 points, Andrew Wiggins had 13 while Cory Joseph and Anthony Bennett each had 10. Nestor Colmenares led Venezuela with 16 points.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Iceland stun troubled Dutch to remain top of group

Iceland beat the 10-man Netherlands 1-0 on Thursday to stay top of Group A and take a big step toward qualifying for next year's European Championship.

Gylfi Sigurdsson converted a 51st-minute penalty for Iceland after Gregory van der Wiel brought down Birkir Bjarnason. In other Group A qualifiers, Latvia drew 1-1 with Turkey and Czech Republic came from behind to beat Kazakhstan 2-1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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- 1 oz crumbled feta
- Tomato slices
- Cucumber slices
- Arugula

Directions

1. In a bowl, combine burger ingredients, mix well. Form into four burgers.
2. Grill or bake burgers at 400 F for approximately 10 to 12 minutes, or until temperature reaches 160 F.
3. Garnish with tzatziki, feta, tomato, cucumber and arugula.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 230
- Protein 26 g
- Carbohydrates 10 g
- Fibre 1 g
- Total fat 8 g
- Saturated fat 3 g
- Cholesterol 110 mg
- Sodium 380 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

Tzatziki is a Greek sauce made from strained yogurt and mixed with cucumbers, garlic, salt, olive oil and lemon juice.

Serves 4

Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients

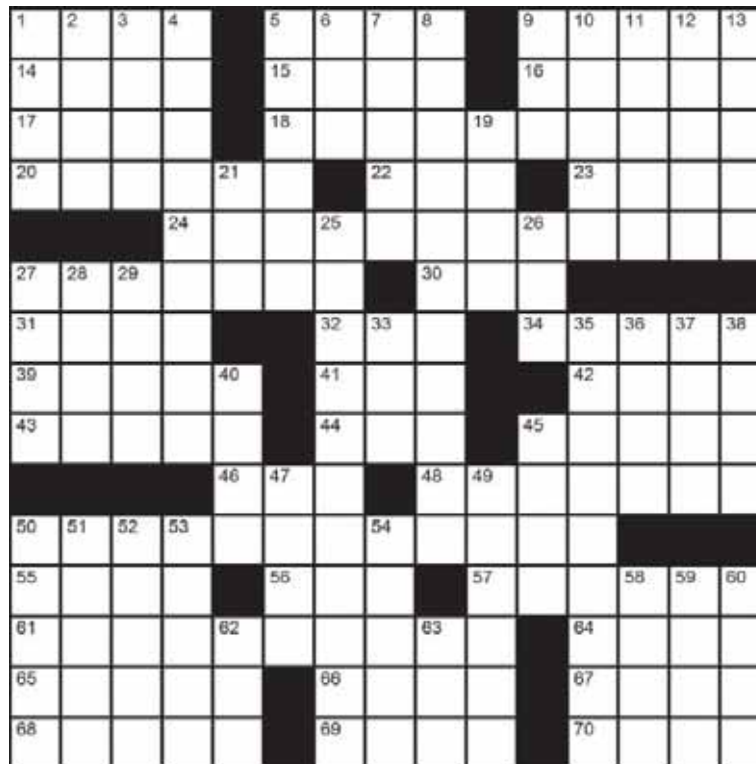
- Burger
- 1 lb ground lean beef
- 3 Tbsp diced onions
- 1/4 cup bread crumbs
- 3 Tbsp barbecue sauce
- 1 1/2 tsp garlic
- Salt and pepper
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp dried basil
- Garnish
- 1/4 cup tzatziki (store-bought)

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Mr. Cumming
5. Embassy worker, e.g.
9. Lathers
14. Shark type
15. "...tete, Alouette..."
16. 'The Hub' of Nova Scotia
17. Send forth
18. Beheld: 3 wds.
20. "Citizen Kane" (1941) estate
22. Big Apple newspaper, briefly
23. Sparkling wine city of Italy
24. Lotto Max's jackpot cap introduced this summer: 2 wds.
27. Environs
30. Do movies
31. Tennis great Mr. Nastase
32. US television station
34. Couches
39. Van _ & Arpels (Jewellery house)
41. Do movie soundtrack work
42. Farewell, to Catullus
43. Neutral tone
44. Seedy sandwich selection
45. Curt
46. 1977 Steely Dan album
48. Victoria, The _ Capital of British Columbia
50. Song from Hair co-written by Canada's very own Galt MacDermot: 4 wds.
55. "Away!"
56. L'Isle _-Coud-



- res, Quebec
57. Apply hairspray
61. Tweety's co-star Sylvester, for one: 2 wds.
64. "Right back _!" (Likewise)
65. Matthew McConaughey's wife Camila

66. Montreal-born singer Mr. Vannelli
67. "Jenny _": Paul McCartney ballad
68. 'Gang' suffixes (Criminals)
69. Canadian writer Mr. Martel
70. NASDAQ rival

DOWN

1. Charge card, e.g.
2. Priest of Tibet
3. Alike
4. Awake, basically: 2 wds.
5. Sumptuous
6. "Give _ rest already!"
7. _the'Elder (Roman

- author of the encyclopedia Naturalis Historia)
8. Shakespeare... She who exclaimed "Out, damn'd spot! out, I say!": 2 wds.
9. Farm enclosure
10. L' _ (Cosmetics brand)

11. Also, in Abitibi
12. Prefix to 'type' (Mock-up)
13. _-law (Family member)
19. 'Synth' suffix
21. Nero's 502
25. Mode of transport in Churchill, Manitoba for tourists viewing polar bears: 2 wds.
26. Fire dept. ranks
27. Ancient Scot
28. "The Producers" (2005) role
29. Andre _ (Dutch violinist/conductor)
33. Purchase
35. Like a bank account without sufficient funds
36. 'Yukon's Best Kept Secret' town
37. To boot
38. Feel
40. Achievement
45. Baseball field covering
47. Comic actress Ms. Cusack
49. Songstress Sheena
50. "Como _?" = "How are you?" in Spanish
51. Grind to _
52. Figure out
53. Oxen harness maker, say
54. _- _ agent (Former employee of The Company)
58. Macy Gray hit: 2 wds.
59. Nautical ropes
60. "Titanic" (1997) star Billy
62. Mag. edition
63. Ms. Jillian

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Someone will turn up the pressure on you today but you refuse to be beaten. There is a determination about Aries that makes you a formidable enemy. The more others attack the more you will dig in your heels.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Every suggestion you make lately seems to be met with disapproval. You won't change their attitude, so you might as well go off by yourself and do your own thing.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Something dramatic is likely to happen either to you directly or to others in such a way that it affects you as well. Keep your wits about you and no harm will come.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Your beliefs and opinions will come under fire today and there may be a very good reason for it. Could it be that some of your ideas went out of fashion years ago? Maybe it's time to bring yourself more up to date.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You have huge responsibilities and you may be tempted to run away from them. But the only way to lessen the burden of your responsibilities is to fulfill them to the letter.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you like a challenge then you will enjoy what happens today. No matter how tough the task you face, or how strong the opposition, you must not back down.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You must trust your instincts even if everyone else seems to be moving in a different direction. Sometimes logic is not the best guide and sometimes it pays not to follow the herd.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Be friendly with everyone you meet today. Some people will be less than friendly in return but it's about how you choose to behave, not how a minority of idiots choose to react.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There can be no more playing around — you must make a decision and you must make it now. It won't be easy and not everyone will approve, but if you don't act now you may never get the chance.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It might be unwise to speak your mind today, even if you are in the right and someone else is in the wrong. You are going to have to work closely with this person in the future, so think before you speak.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Cosmic activity in the wealth area of your chart means you need to tighten your belt now so you can enjoy the benefits later on. The less you spend today the more cash will be available to spend tomorrow.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Confrontation is likely today. Resist the urge to pull rank on people you work with, because they will get back at you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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- 1 Block from Bow Valley College
- Rooftop 2-Storey Fitness Centre
- Rooftop Outdoor Kitchen & Entertaining Area

*The Developer reserves the right to make revisions it deems appropriate in its sole discretion, to floorplans, unit configuration, and finishings. Unit sizes are estimates only and subject to revision by the Developer. All units are subject to GST.

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of Knightsbridge and Metroplia.

